

UNPARALLELED SURGE TO GIRL WRESTLING

**The
RING**

OCTOBER 1965

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WRESTLING

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Italian Vendetta**





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NAME

ADDRESS

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I am under eighteen, but have parent/guardian permission to learn the POWER OF AIKIDO.

RW MAT MAIL

AUSTRALIAN AGAINST WOMEN

Ring Wrestling is the finest publication in its field. I will continue to be a subscriber for as long as you live—and I live. But I have a complaint.

It's those girl wrestlers. I think they are hurting the magazine. In time you might change the name to Glamour and Sex.

I see by your mail that the boys want even more girlie stuff. Well, publish pictures of the beauties. But up to a certain point. Wrestling always will be a man's sport and its standards always will be set by the men.

You do not print sufficient material on the old timers. Let's have more about Gotch, Hack, Jenkins, O'Mahoney, Strangler Lewis, Londres, Aberg, McGill and the rest.

I don't like to see you waste space on the collegians and other amateurs.

T. G. Maistre,
Mascot, NSW, Australia

WOMEN CAN BEAT MEN

In your latest issue you state that wrestling matches between professional men and women are few and far between and that the odds are 100 to 1 in favor of the men.

Well, the records don't back you up. Mildred Burke beat many men and June Byers has beaten some 80 of them.

On a visit to Mexico Nell Stewart had six bouts with men and won four of them. Ann Villa is her husband's tag team mate.

Some ten years ago, in Paris, Mlle. De Rovera pinned former champion Henri De Glance.

Mae Young beat a male opponent so badly he had to be taken to a hospital.

You might look into this male vs. female angle for a story. There is a lot more to it than you think.

Johnny Kadish,
Christchurch, New Zealand

WANTS MORE DOPE ON BEAUTIES

It's a pleasure watching the buxom B. Boucher at work. I thoroughly enjoy reading the articles and glancing at the pictures in your magazine. But it's such a long wait between issues. Can't you publish your magazine more often? An issue devoted entirely to the girls between the regular issues would have a big sale.

How about an article on the strength of the female wrestler? An article devoted to demonstrating just how strong these lovely ladies are. Is it true that they can carry four times their own weight on their shoulders and do a backbend supporting a heavier person astride their midsection? Well, let's see it.

Alfred Hitchensen,
East Paterson, N.J.

COMPLIMENTS PREFER

My compliments to Ring Wrestling and Jack Pfeiffer for a most complete and excellent article on Negro wrestling stars.

Rufus Jones was killed in January, 1952 when his car ran into a concrete underpass outside of Ogden, Utah, during foggy weather. He had been campaigning along the Pacific northwest.

Jack Claybourne was one of the most popular American stars to wrestle in Australia. One of his favorite maneuvers was to jump over the referee and fall on his opponent for a pin. This earned him the nickname of "Jumping" Jack. He and Jim Mitchell, "The Black Panther", held the Australian Tag Team Championship from 1946-1947.

Also, didn't Jack Johnson dabble in wrestling during his "exile" in France? I believe that shortly before he lost his title to Jess Willard he engaged in several matches in Paris to fill his dwindling purse. Whether they were exhibitions or actual contests I cannot be sure.

Howard Siegel,
New York, N.Y.

ADVOCATES GALS' RULES

I think that the time has come to set up a special book of rules for us gals. We have been working under men's regulations long enough. For example the long count before a hold is broken and the offender disqualified.

Mildred Burke back in action, but it's a TV stunt. It may have been a stunt but it was still a good show. Any time Mildred gets in the ring a good show is put on.

I think that women should be allowed to wrestle in all the states. There's nothing wrong with women wrestling. Miss Burke proved that. She even showed the men some tricks while she defeated some of them.

Joyceann Garrison
Hackensack, N. J.

A DRASTIC PROPOSAL

Let me give your magazine some sound advice. Throw the men out and devote yourself to the gals, who are the future of wrestling in this country and in Europe.

I never have seen a women's match in which both of the participants did not try to the limit.

They fight hard and sometimes amaze me with their skills, which I, as a former

college wrestling champion, am in a position to appreciate.

Some of the gals are inclined to outdo the male villains with rough stuff. This is not good. Let the females stick to character and allow the bruisers to attend to the blood and thunder.

I am very much interested in your reports of wrestling in France. Why don't a couple of Americans invade that territory, and find out how good Morelli, Magnani and Ortega really are?

In any event, you are getting out the only class magazine in the field and I wish you prosperity and health.

Dan Heath,
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Editor's Note:—We do not believe that you really want us to throw out the men. We are achieving a splendid proportion of space and attention to men and women, and we are getting letters which applaud our system. We feel that men's wrestling in particular, and all wrestling in general everywhere, would enjoy a tremendous boost if Thesz and Sammartino met for the world title.

ANOTHER DRASTIC PROPOSAL

Why do you insist on wasting your space and my time with the gals? They can't wrestle, they never will be able to wrestle, and they just don't look genuine. They are women and they are too soft.

Sure, they get rough at times. But I can't believe they mean it.

Throw the females out and run an all-man's book, and be more choosy about whom you feature.

Sallie Gervais,
Boston, Mass.

Editor's Note:—Sallie, the gals are genuine. They fight. They try hard. They aren't as soft as you insist they are. We certainly are not entertaining, for one minute, the idea of throwing them out of this magazine, the success of which is traceable in a big measure to its greater devotion and attention to the gals than is accorded to them by any other publication in this field. God bless the gals!

ACE FREEMAN FAN CLUB BOOST

I would appreciate it very much if you would try to find room in your great magazine to mention my International Fan Club for Ace Freeman.

The dues for the club are one dollar per year. Upon joining, members receive and 8/10 photo of Ace, a wallet size photo, an information sheet and an official membership card.

This club has been sanctioned by Ace Freeman.

Good luck with your magazine, and thank you for your space.

Kathy Robertson,
P.O. Box 93, 7th St.
Grapeville, Pa.

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Publisher and Editor

NAT LOUBET

Managing Editor

DANIEL M. DANIEL

Associate Editors

ED BRENNAN

GEORGE GIRSCH

Contributing Editors

BETTE KRIEGER

TED CARROLL

JOHNNY ORT

JERSEY JONES

Art Editor

CHARLEY WILLIAMS

Circulation

JANET CHASE

Asst. Circulation

SANDY KWITEL

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Rumford Press, Concord, New Hampshire
Subscription, Editorial and Executive Offices
120 West 31st Street, New York 1, N. Y.
Telephone: LO 4-9351-5

Nathaniel Fleischer, President
Nathaniel Loubet, Vice President, Editor
Dan Daniel, Secretary
Address of offices:
120 West 31st Street, N. Y. 1, N. Y.

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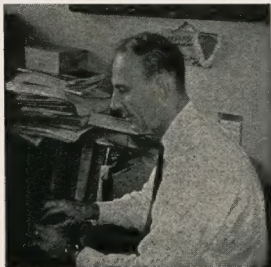
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RW EDITORIAL



ABILITY OR STRENGTH?

TALK of matching Lou Thesz and Bruno Sammartino for the world wrestling championship has developed a lot of interesting discussion regarding their relative merits and special attributes.

It is agreed that they would represent two distinct schools of grappling—Lou's all around skill and techniques against Bruno's physical power. It would be holds against strength. Which would you pick?

In an era in which the 200 pound plus competitor is commonplace, the pro is quick to point out that a smaller man has little chance to attain the world crown.

Now and then a smaller man achieves attention and climbs up close to the pinnacle. Ricky Starr is one such example. But these smaller men have never quite made it to the top, nor are they likely to in this age of "The Big Man".

In most sports there is a premium on size and, along with that, an eagerly sought strength factor.

Most of the leading wrestlers in the professional ranks have size and weight but not all are supermen in the strength department.

As a matter of fact the only "Strong Man" to make the top grade in recent years is Bruno Sammartino, the World Wide Wrestling Federation champion. While all of the other claimants to the world title are far from weaklings they do not possess unusual power qualities.

The National Wrestling Alliance champ, Lou Thesz, acknowledged by most of the experts to be the best wrestler of modern times, does not depend on power to achieve his standing.

Like most of his counterparts he has come up the hard way. His manager was

Ed Strangler Lewis, one of the all-time greats, who gave Thesz the best he had. This combined with natural ability, and perseverance has made a champ.

In a strength duel with Sammartino it is doubtful if the St. Louis grappler would be conceded a chance. But in ability and all-around knowhow Thesz is one of the best of all time.

Sammartino is proud of his ability to lift great weights; proud of his muscles and power. In addition Bruno is no slouch as a wrestler but is not in it compared with Thesz in pure ability.

The old adage "that a good big guy can always beat a good small guy", if they are

equal in ability is true. By the same token a big man with ability and an abundance of strength should defeat another big man of equal ability but less of the power factor.

The history of all sports is replete with big men going down to defeat before small men and wrestling is no exception. Even Sammartino has been defeated by men of far less strength. Often his crown has been protected by rulings that prevent a title from being lost on a disqualification.

It is rare, indeed, for a man to possess everything. For example, Thesz has speed, agility and all around wrestling ability far beyond most of his contemporaries. Sammartino, on the other hand has far less ability but far more strength.

Which is the more important and where does one draw the line? How much strength does a wrestler need in order to stand a chance? How important is this factor of being a muscle man?

The history of sports indicate that the "S" factor is an asset but its importance is often over emphasized.

In boxing, men like Carnera, the circus strongman, was far from being one of the great technicians of ring history, and as a matter of fact, was a better wrestler than he was a boxer.

Carnera used his great strength the way Sammartino does, along with a fair knowledge of the holds and escapes, plus good showmanship. Others have achieved as much with far less power.

How important is strength? This reporter picks ability over strength.

Strength is a big plus toward wrestling greatness but agility, speed and intelligence are more important. What do you think?

WOMEN WRESTLERS LOSE IN NEW YORK HIGH COURT

By
NAT LOUBET

EFFORTS of women wrestlers, headed by Ethel (Whitehead) Johnson, to force the New York State Commission to remove the bars against their competing in that state have met with temporary failure. This setback, in the Supreme Court, Justice Harold P. Kelly, may turn out to be fatal.

The case has gone to the Appellate Court in Rochester, N.Y., but the petitioners concede that their chances of a reversal are none too bright.

John R. Minicucci appeared for the wrestlers before Justice Kelly and Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz represented General Melvin Krulwich, James A. Farley, Jr., and Raymond Lee, composing the Commission.

The closing paragraph of Justice Kelly's ruling says:

"No proof is submitted that the rule prohibiting women from participating in wrestling contests or exhibitions can be said to be arbitrary, capricious, and without authority of the statute.

"The Court should not substitute its discretion for that of the Commission in determining the physical and other qualifications of participants in wrestling matches."

Justice Kelly held that Hessaltine vs. Illinois State Commission, decided in favor of a woman wrestler against that state body, and instrumental in breaking down the bars against women wrestlers in Illinois, did not have any bearing on the New York situation.

Some competent legal minds have advised the gals not to stop, but to go to a higher court.

Some lawyers believe that the female contingent has a powerful argument under the new Federal statutes which guarantee women workers equal opportunities with the men.

The women point out that to pursue the case in higher tribunals would involve greater financial resources than they have.

Ketchup? Razor Blades?

No, It's Plain Blood!

Wrestling Shown To Be Most Dangerous,
Most Punishing Sport In The Entire
Professional Competitive Field

By
**DAN
DANIEL**



Gus Sonnenberg, whose arduous work on the mat wore him out and, at age 44, left him a victim of leukemia.

BY and large, professional wrestling must be rated the most dangerous, exhausting, stamina testing and physically demanding sport presented to the American public.

There is a more dangerous game for spectator exposure—professional automobile racing, which achieves its daffy apogee in the Indianapolis 500.

However, this cannot be regarded as a sport, even if it be run on sports pages. It represents the acme of masochism. Some of its exponents appear to be bent on self injury if not self destruction.

Before entering into a detailed discussion of wrestling as the most dangerous sport let us take up the blast of the skeptic, who, of course, is rampant.

"A lot of the alleged blood you see in the ring is ketchup," he insists.

"Some of the bleeders have capsules which they grind between their teeth and soon their faces are covered with that red stuff. Some wrestlers inflict wounds on themselves with razor blades."

Let it be said that in spite of the occasional capsule grinders and blade wielders, wrestling is the most dangerous. Most of the "ketchup" you see in the ring is blood—real blood.

Of course, the shedding of red corpuscles does not, in itself, make wrestling the most dangerous sport.

There is a growing list of fatalities of older wrestlers. Many of these continue in the ring long after they have exhausted their most violent abilities. Comes a night, and they fall in the ring, or collapse in the dressing room.

For these tragedies promoters as well as worn-out victims are responsible.

If there be old timers who have to go on battling because of financial stringency there should be some source of help from a wrestlers' guild. However, you mention that to the average grappler and he will laugh.

If there were a guild it would force the promoters to cover the concrete floor around the ring with foam rubber. The expense would be comparatively inconsequential.

All wrestlers suffer head and other injuries of varying degrees from tumbles to the area adjacent to the ring. Some of these adventures in hurtling develop permanent injuries.

A primary source of serious injuries is the ring vendetta. Here again do we run into the skeptic. There are some fierce feuds among the grappling fraternity—feuds which run over from the



Ivan Managoff, one of the numerous grapplers who were cut down at crest of their careers by serious injury.



Janet Boyer Wolfe, who was only 18 when she died of a ruptured stomach suffered in a match with Ella Waldek in July 1951.



Jim Browning, once recognized champion, who did not long survive his years of glory. The crown and sceptre before long became mere mockeries of halcyon days.

roped square into the dressing rooms. Coke bottles are bounced off noggins and blood flows where the fans cannot see it.

Many of the more aggravated injuries suffered by wrestlers are inflicted on them by daffy spectators. Women stick pins into the grapplers as they walk down the aisle to the ring. There have been cases of stabbings, even by invaders of the ring.

Nutty onlookers throw bottles, chairs and even ring posts at wrestlers. The victims of these onslaughts have to be very careful in retaliation.

There are shyster lawyers everywhere who will sue wrestlers if they so much as lay a heavy hand on one of these kooks. You bleed and you get to the dressing room the best way you can. Arena cops are not always very helpful.

Let the skeptics say what they may, wrestling is more dangerous than professional boxing. This is an established fact in spite of unfortunate happenings like the Benny Paret, Davey Moore, Bull Young and Luther McCarthy tragedies.

Wrestling is infinitely more dangerous than professional football. This is supported by every gridiron hero who has invaded the ring—Gus Sonnenberg, Joe Savoldi and Bronko Nagurski of the past, and Wahoo McDaniel of the present, among many others.

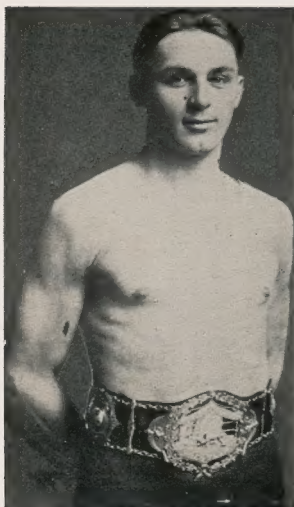
Sonnenberg brought into wrestling many of the maneuvers which have helped to make the game so dangerous. He spread use of the flying tackle which sent so many of his foes winging out of rings all over the country.

Gus died in 1944, age 44, of leukemia. He had served in the Navy. It must be suspected that the punishment he suffered in the ring had something to do with his physical and blood chemistry deterioration.

One of the outstanding cases of wrestling injury is the great Strangler Lewis, who lives in retirement, on a pension, near Tulsa, Okla.

The Strangler is blind. He is blind from the effects of at times brutal competition. He is a wrestling casualty.

Another casualty is the once indomitable world champion Joe Stecher, master of the body scissors. He is in a government

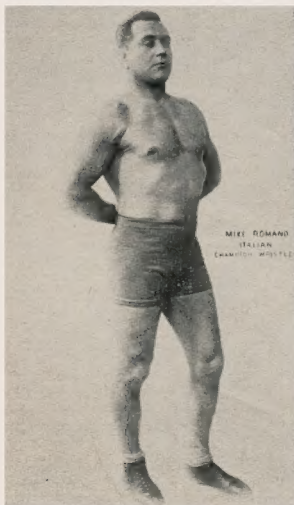


On left, the famous Joe Stecher, who won a world title with his remarkable body scissors. Joe is in a government hospital in Minnesota, a physical wreck after a wearing, tearing career on the wrestling mat.

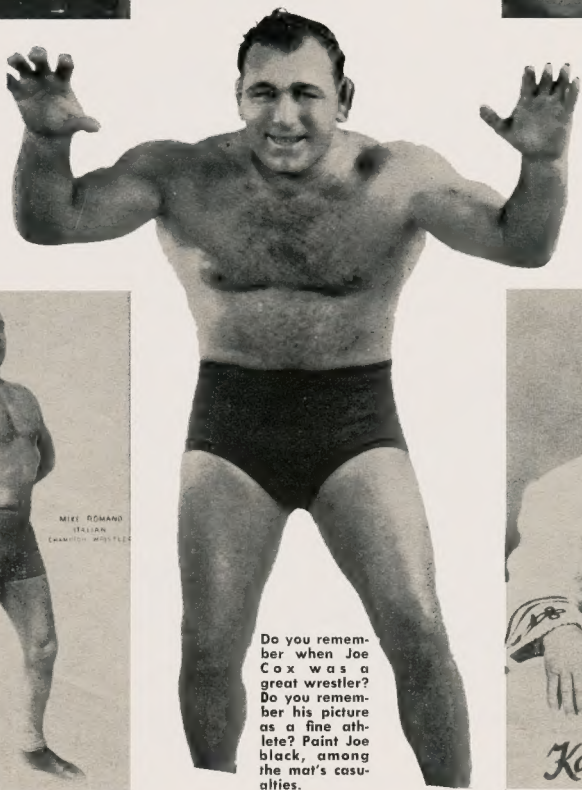


On the right, the Great Togo. In a struggle in Montreal a rival bashed him over the head with a chair and hospitalized him for six months with brain concussion. Ketchup and razor blades? No, siree!

Here we have Mike Romano, who fought and fought, and one night found that he could fight no more.

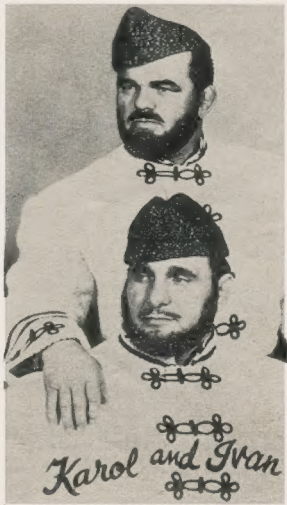


MIKE ROMANO
ITALIAN
CHAMPION WRESTLER



Do you remember when Joe Cox was a great wrestler? Do you remember his picture as a fine athlete? Paint Joe black, among the mat's casualties.

The Kalmikoffs, Karol and Ivan, made a great wrestling duo. They were real brothers. Karol, who stands over Ivan, went the route for too many years.



Karol and Ivan

hospital in Minnesota, where he has been for some years. One of the most pathetic stories in professional sports history.

The dangers of pro wrestling were stressed recently by two happenings.

The first was the death of Mickey Sharpe, who was killed in an auto smashup while driving through the night in Nova Scotia, after he had shown in Halifax. He hit another car and three men were killed, with several injuries.

The second point in evidence was furnished by information from Sydney, Australia, that Mark Lewin, American wrestler, possibly had suffered a broken neck in a match with Mitsu Arakawa.

A soft way to earn a living? Not when you consider these and other mishaps right through the years.

Football players operate once a week over a season of perhaps five months.

Boxers work rather infrequently. Champions may defend their titles only once a year.

But wrestlers work ten months a year, two and even three times a week. I would say that this means straining the system. But your grappler will tell you he keeps in shape by work.

The women wrestlers get kindlier treatment than the men from their spectators. There is a sense of chivalry in this situation. But the gals also get hurt, sometimes very badly.

There is one outstanding case of a pretty being so seriously hurt in a match that she died a few hours later.

The victim was Janet Boyer Wolfe, adopted daughter of the late Billy Wolfe, the greatest trainer of girl wrestlers yet in the game's history.

Janet, only 18 years of age, on July 27, 1951, succumbed to the East Liverpool (Ohio) Osteopathic Hospital from a ruptured



Danny McShain, who so infuriated a Texas crowd that after he had left the ring it broke his ribs, and gave him numerous contusions and bruises. Just plain Ketchup and Razor Blades!

stomach. It developed that she had stuffed herself before going into the ring.

Janet became very ill during a match with Ella Waldek, who beat her in only seven minutes. Despite her serious condition the Boyer-Wolfe gal insisted on teaming up with Eva Lee against Miss Waldek and Mae Young. Before long Janet collapsed and was rushed to the hospital.

A veteran of the ring insists that before meeting Miss Waldek, Miss Boyer-Wolfe was the victim of vicious attacks by jealous rivals who half beat her to death. However, this charge never has been substantiated.

Stan Stasiak, one of the greatest wrestlers in history, died from blood poisoning developing from a ring injury.

More or less recent victims of heart attacks include Karol Kalmikoff, Ali Pasha, Mike Romano, and Chick Garibaldi. They stayed around too long.

Gordon McKinley was one of those who was killed in the ring. Dennis Clary died of head injuries suffered in a bout.

Danny McShain so aroused a Texas turnout that he was attacked as he left the ring and got cuts, bruises, contusions and fractures galore.

Nanjo Singh fell from the ring and fractured his skull. Gypsy Joe missed a flying tackle, crashed into a ring post, and tore his head open, requiring 24 stitches.

In a Montreal bout Yvon Robert crashed a chair over the Great Togo's head and sent him to a hospital with a brain concussion. Togo had to take a six months' vacation.

Add to the list of casualties Steve Znosky, Frank Speers, George Kotsonaris, Ivan Managoff, Joe Cox, Rudy La Ditz, Pierre Le Doux, and Jim Browning.

I could cite numerous other cases. They all go to prove that despite Mr. Skeptic's ketchup and razor blades, real blood is shed in the wrestling ring, and real lives are lost in this most dangerous of all sports.

Dangerous because tempers are lost. Dangerous because behemoths are in violent competition. Dangerous because this is a sport virtually without rules. Everything goes, and the more violent, the merrier.



George Kotsonaris is listed among the casualties of this rough and tough "Carnival of Ketchup and Razor Blades". He had appeared to be a superbly conditioned athlete.



Women fans show emotions from calmness to running to the ringside with hoots, boos and hisses as their favorites gain and lose momentary advantages.



WOMEN held the spotlight at the Charlotte Coliseum in North Carolina and the fans couldn't keep their seats as the battling between some of the top hell-cats in the sport reached its peak. Oddly enough it was the women spectators who were most affected by the rock'em sock'em antics of the athletes in the ring.

The female grappler who excited the spectators most were Fabulous Moolah and Penny Banner. Moolah and the beautiful Penny engaged in one of the roughest battles among women wrestlers in years. Moolah is recognized as champion in many sections of the country but she had her hands full before she was able to dominate her good looking opponent.



Penny Banner with a leg stretch and toe hold has Fabulous Moolah pounding her fists on the canvas in pain. At left we see Miss Banner about to be slammed to the canvas as Moolah pulls her off balance.

The Night Fury Was In Fashion

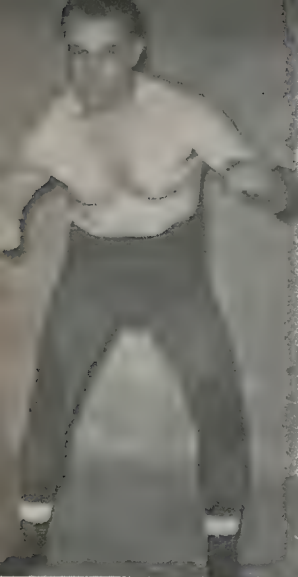
Photos and Story
By GENE GORDON



Out of the ring goes Moolah and Penny follows her opponent to the arena floor and dares the stunned Moolah to slug it out.



Back in the ring and Moolah goes from an arm lock to a hip throw and then a knee press to gain the pin and the match. Look at her crow to the fans a la Tarzan.



HALF CENTURY OF ITALIAN MAT FEUD

Here we have two stalwarts of the long ago who played big roles in the establishment of the Italian vendetta in American wrestling. On the left, Al Cistoldi, a star around 1930, now a wealthy garage owner in Boston. On the right, the original Rocco, first name Tony, a New Yorker who starred around 1926.

By **GEORGE GIRSCH**

(Second of a series of three articles on Italian wrestlers of the long ago, illustrated with photographs from the famous Pfefer Collection.)

WRESTLING is the universal sport. You will find it flourishing in New York, you will be entertained by it in Tokyo, you will see it in splendid evidence in India.

But, world wide as it is, wrestling presents a big diversity of styles which tell the grappler's origin.

"Let me watch an unidentified wrestler from Russia for ten minutes and I promise to reveal the country of his origin. That goes for matmen from Germany, France, and the Scandinavian countries, as well," says Jack Pfefer.

"I will admit that identification is becoming more difficult as the internationalists go more and more for Yankee gimmicks and USA holds. Our football charges and associated weapons have made American wrestling a sport by itself, actually minus rules."

The Italians brought a distinct system of wrestling into this country. They developed their national style from Greco-Roman backgrounds. You will find presentations of wrestling matches on ancient frescoes of Roman and Etruscan origin.

The Italians came here with speed of hand and foot and a penchant for the tricks of the mat. They were—in fact, still are—quick to become involved in feuds.

The Italian temperament is quick to bubble over. Imports from Sicily, especially occasional entries from Calabria, were quick to anger, slow to forgive and forget, and supported by a very demonstrative lot of fans.

They still are at it, those Italian fans. Witness the \$50,000 houses Charley Johnston continues to draw in New York's Garden with Bruno Sammartino as his No. 1 attraction.

Before Sammartino it was Rocca, before him Primo Carnera. Da Prime made a fortune as a fighter and lost it. He didn't watch his managers' accounts very closely.

As a wrestler, Primo made another fortune. Out of that he





The great Primo Carnera (left), who made a fortune as heavyweight boxing champion and lost it, and made another fortune on the mat and reportedly did not stow that away, either. Whom have we above? None other than Salvatore Darnoldi, who made a big reputation in Italy, did very well in the USA, and then took his sack of moolah back to Napoli. Don't let Darnoldi's lack of lard and bulging biceps fool you about his skills and his power.

managed to save a fine home in Los Angeles. I was informed recently that Carnera now worked as a butcher in a Los Angeles super-market. A strange change. He never was a butcher as a boxer or wrestler.

There is an analogy between the early Italian wrestlers in this country, so many of them brought over by Pfefer, and the Negro boys of boxing. Both may trace their headway to hunger.

The vast majority of the mat imports from Italy were of Sicilian origin, with an infiltration of grapplers from the North.

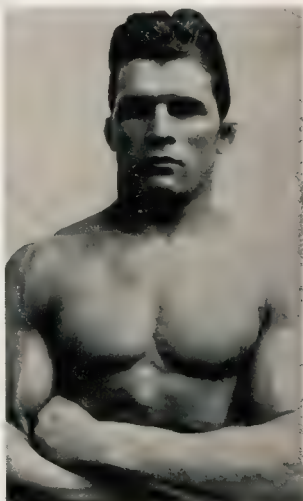
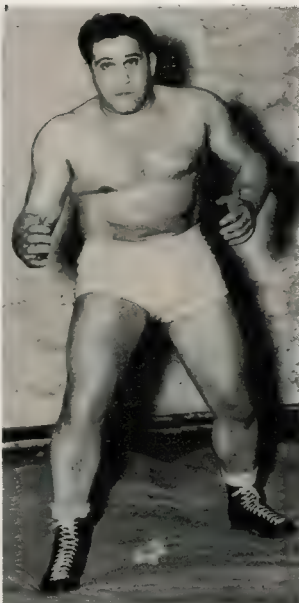
These wrestlers from sections of Italy less favored industrially and financially saw in American rings tremendous opportunities beyond their wildest dreams. They did much to improve and foster the sport in the United States. They fostered vendetta.

After the imports came Italian wrestlers who were natives of the USA. Later, a second generation. There are many of these in action today.

Time produced Carnera as a wrestler, the first world champion heavyweight boxer to make a success on the mat. Now we have Sammartino, who lays claim to the world wrestling title.

In between Gardini and Carnera and Sammartino we have had a hundred other Italian grapplers who have taken out of the game fortunes and laurels, and added brilliantly to the annals of a sport in which they were so thoroughly at home.

Italian wrestlers of the 1920's and 1930's did remarkably well in the matter of income. For one, Al Cistoldi, who after a brilliant mat career went into the garage and auto repair business in Boston. Pfefer says, "The guy is loaded."



On the left, Tony Milano, who last was seen in New York, where he had a big following in his days of action. On the right, Nazarino Poggi, a handsome bucco in his wrestling days, and now in business in California.

The original Tony Rocco, who worked out of New York in the 1920's, was an accomplished performer, as was Salvatore Darnoldi. Sal knew the value of dough. He got his and then sailed back to Italy, to live the life of Reilly, or whoever it is who has it soft there.

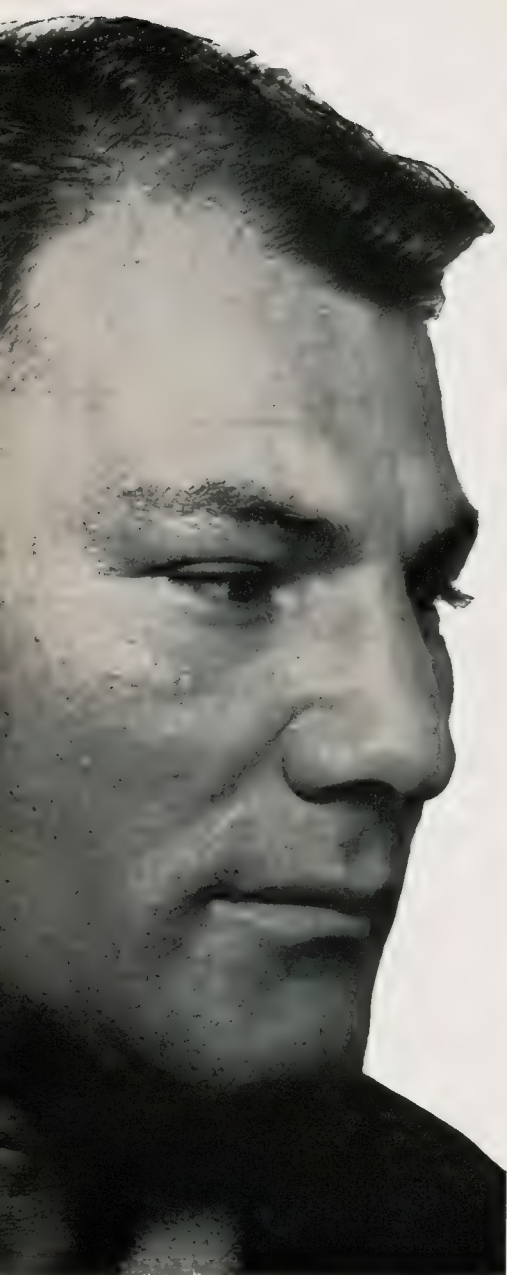
Nazarino Poggi, Tony Martinelli, Pietro Gobbo, Mario Giglio, Frank Marconi, Ernie Natalie, Fred Carone, Faro Rinaldo, Tony Faletti, Luigi Bagigalupi, and Tony

Bommerito were just a few of those who stood out thirty years back.

Wrestlers in those days worked a field which has become obsolete. Somehow or other, the Italians were in special demand in this field—the burlesque theatres of America.

There were no big paydays in that circuit. But they presented a source of steady income.

Well do we remember the girlie show



We have here a studio study of Tony Martinelli, a star of the 1930s, who now is a contractor in the tile business in New Jersey. Martinelli, certainly not to be confused with the operatic luminary of that name, sang a dismal aria for many a mat rival.



Pietro Gobbo was not in campus trim back in 1930 but he was strong and he had holds. Last heard of in Boston. Is he still alive? Pfefer says, "I dunno."



A bronze statue. Mario Giglio. He was a good looking, muscular, determined importation from Sunny Italy. Lives in New York and attends the shows in the Garden, paying his own way, too.

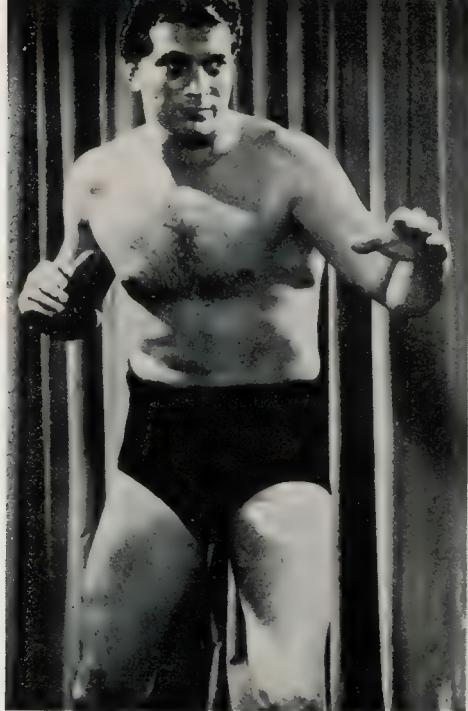


They called Frank Marconi, back around 1930, the Hairy One. A lightweight wrestler could get himself lost in the hirsute forest which flourished on Francisco's chest.

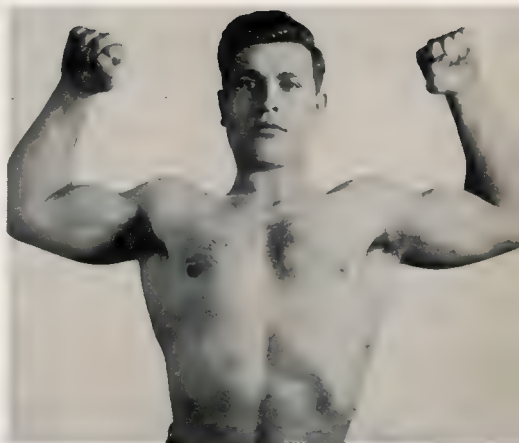
posters advertising Gardini, Garibaldi, Bull Montana and the rest of that crew who shared the night's excitements with cheers for the strippers.

The sport has progressed tremendously since then. From the Star Theatre in Brooklyn it has gone to the Garden and 19,000 houses grossing \$70,000.

Give to the Italian wrestler his just due in lifting the game into its current position.



Above, the well proportioned, powerful, expert escapist Ernie Natalie. He still is around. Below, Fred Carone, one of our 1930 heroes, who is a guard in a sanitarium in Worcester, Mass.



This is a good shot of Faro Rinaldo, who is in business in Milwaukee. In his days of struggle Rinaldo was fast on his feet and as full of tricks as a picnic cake is with ants.



Take a good gander at Luigi Bacigalupi, the only wrestler who went in for snake charming. Luigi lives in California, where he trains snakes. No, not as wrestlers. Maybe for the movies.

Spanish Girl Excites As French End Mat Season

By MICHEL BEZY



Lina Magnani (left), the European champion, who is quite a good-looking gal, showed to great advantage in defeating Janine Sorbadhil, the Basque, shown posing at right. Magnani is a great crowd-pleaser. A match between Lina and Rita Cortez would pack an arena anywhere. Paris would be a very likely place for a meeting.



CAP FERRAT, France—Your correspondent, having closed the women's wrestling season with a bang, 5,000 fans having attended the finale in Dax Arena, now is taking it easy for a while before lining up the biggest campaign yet for the beauties of the mat.

The potential of women's wrestling in France hasn't been approached. New stars are coming along and, I am afraid, old ones are fading out to make room for the additions.

We will not rest until we have made women's wrestling an accepted and official activity in Paris, where it has yet to grow out of the night club stage.

A European circuit of women's wrestling arenas, taking in big centres in France, England, Italy, Spain and Greece, undoubtedly would be a tremendous success.

In the meantime there is the colossal Spanish girl Gina

Cattagno, who made her French debut in the Dax Arena.

Now here is a powerful wrestler with holds and fury. She made short shrift of Olivia Mongho, and will be one of the big attractions of the mat when competition resumes in October.

Sylvia Morelli, long one of the greatest gal wrestlers in the world, showed that she had begun to slip. She called on all her tricks against the fierce, cruel and powerful Pepita Ortega but could not beat the firebrand. After thirty minutes this match was called a draw.

Lina Magnani, the European champion, showed to great advantage when she beat the Basque Janine Sorbadhil.

When Magnani and Morelli teamed up against Babette Carol and Pepita the handwriting was on the wall. The Italians were beaten. Carol, fresh and strong, was the vital factor.

Standing out for next season is the Belgian champion, Paule

de Cottignies. This grappler is to be watched closely. She took on Caro Swick, champion of Switzerland, and they went at it hammer and tongs. La Swick is a terrific wrestler. But La Cottignies is still more so, and won in 18 minutes.

Two outstanding beauties, Edith Salvery, of Paris, and the Countess de Beaumont, a real noble lady, met in a match which did not last very long. Caroline beat Edith with ease. However, the Salvery girl is learning fast.

It is believed that a couple of good American women would find it worth while to come over next season. They might be surprised by the calibre of competition here. Rita Cortez and Magnani would pack the house anywhere. Might even get the nod in Paris.

Talk of Yankee gals coming over here has aroused comparisons between the techniques of the European contingent and the top flight Americans.

There are marked differences in style. The French and Italian leaders on this side go in for rather orthodox methods.

It is feared that if American girls invaded France and Italy there would be scenes of

tumult and great rioting.

The American girls have borrowed a lot of rough stuff from the men. The Yankee beauties go in for football tackles and charges, and they do not disdain gouging and strangling.

If a gal like Cortez came over, there would have to be special rules to cover her competition. Otherwise she would be disqualified in five minutes.

American male wrestlers who are campaigning on this side say that the Yankee girls are too strong for the Europeans.

The European contingent refuses to accept this estimate of its powers and hopes fervently, that this question can be determined in actual competition on this side.

European women say that in comparing them with the Americans they would have to get credit for representing the real sport of wrestling.

One of our European leaders, who, quite naturally, would not allow the use of her name, said to the writer:

"There are no rules in America, for the men or the girls. The women are not as accomplished in holds and escapes as we are. But, in their own way, they are good."



Sylvia Morelli (above right), the former European titleholder, and one of the best in the world for years, engaged in a spirited draw with powerful Pepita Ortega (right). Pepita also teamed up with Babette Carol (left), to defeat Magnani and Morelli. It was Babette who was the vital factor in the hard-fought engagement.



STEINKE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BEAT STAN ZBYSZKO

By NAT FLEISCHER

ONE OF the biggest disappointments Stanislaus Zbyszko suffered in his long career was his defeat by Hans Steinke at a time when he was trying to regain the crown. Eventually he did recover the crown; from Wayne Mann. While awaiting the opportunity for a title shot, he faced Steinke in a match in which he was to use Greco-Roman and Steinke catch-as-catch-can.

One fall would decide the issue and this was gained by the big, strong German after a thrilling engagement which he ended in an hour and twenty minutes with a reverse body and arm hold.

Steinke was master from the start. This inked the elder Zbyszko, primarily because had both used the Greco-Roman style, Stan would have excelled. The tremendous strength of Steinke was the deciding factor. Time and again he broke holds which had enabled Stanislaus to down opponents.

Steinke surprised the huge turnout at the Dexter Park Pavilion of Chicago, on February 7, 1924, by making use of many holds he had not used in Germany.

Steiner's body scissors and Strangler Lewis' head lock did considerable damage to Zbyszko. Toward the end of the match, Steinke made use of a powerful scissors hold combined with a wrist or arm lock.

So riled was Zbyszko when referee Charley Levine held up

the hand of Steinke, that he rushed at his conqueror and punched the German. Zbyszko was loud in his protests that the official had erred in his decision, but the spectators were satisfied.

That victory put Steinke into the top rank of title contenders. His services thereafter were in high demand and he appeared in a number of important international matches.

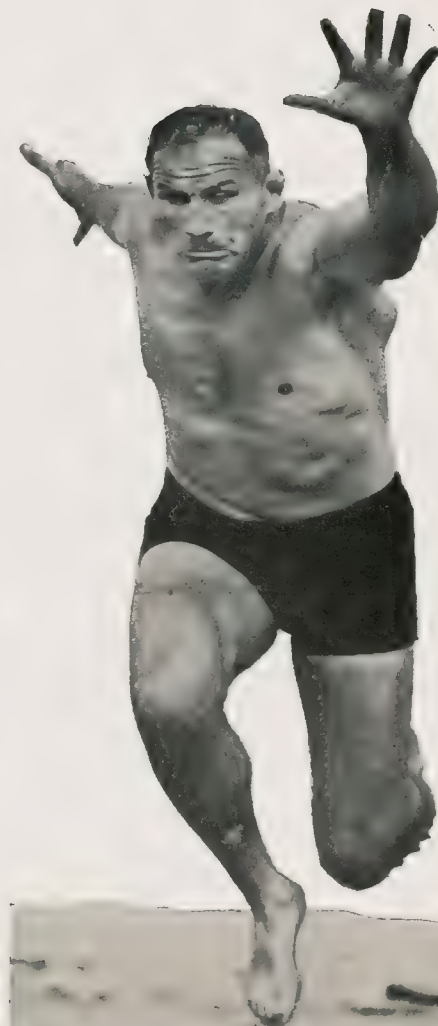
Back in the early "twenties", at a time when many of Germany's famous wrestlers who had participated in World War One were striving to get back into competition Steinke and Dick Shikat made their way to America. Although the field was loaded with top American grapplers and a number of Russians, Bulgarians and Italians who were filling our arenas, the Teutons succeeded in working into the group that commanded most attention in the wrestling world.

Walter Eckersall, famous Chicago quarterback, was a reporter for the Chicago Tribune. When Steinke arrived in the Windy City to prepare for the Zbyszko bout, Eckersall wrote:

"Hans Steinke, the giant German grappler who will meet Stanislaus Zbyszko, former heavyweight champion, has amazed me. His size, bulk and powerful muscles came as a surprise when I met him at the railroad station. He is a larger man by far than George Hackenschmidt who lost the crown to Frank Gotch in 1908 here. He is larger than any of the challengers who



On the left, Hans Steinke, who toyed with giants. Above, Hans in the movie "Deception", manhandling Nat Pendleton, Columbia-NYAC grappler. Gorgeous Thelma Todd is the lady with Hans.



To right, the sturdy Hans in one of his more awe-inspiring moods. Here again we find Steinke performing before a Hollywood camera. In movies he was an ape, a strong man, a social figure, a versatile performer.



This shows Steinke holding aloft a 200-pound foe as if he was just a lightweight. Note that Hans was not a fat man. He weighed 275 and stood 6 feet 6 inches in bare feet.

have come to this part of the world since Hackenschmidt's defeat, despite the fact that such wrestling marvels as Mahmoud, Samson, Essen Rouel de Rouen and others were proclaimed giants of the wrestling field.

"Hans is 6 feet 6 inches tall, weighs 275 pounds, has a reach of 85 inches, which is longer than that of Jess Willard; a chest development of 56 inches, 18½ inch biceps, waist of 36 inches and wears size 12 shoes. He is larger and much better proportioned an athlete than Ralph Rose, holder of the world shot put record of 51 feet, and Willard, Luis Firpo, the Argentinian fighter and Pat McDonald, the gigantic New York police sergeant and world famous weight tosser. With so much in his favor, Steinke should make good in America."

And he did. Not only in wrestling but as a movie actor in Hollywood.

The story of Steinke, is that of a renowned athlete with a colorful career. It was not all won in the ring. The mat industry was only one of many in which Steinke engaged.

His greatest moments, his toughest ones, he related, were in the German army. What he had seen and undergone on the battlefields of France, he remarked, was what gave him the courage and stamina he displayed later as a wrestler. His brute

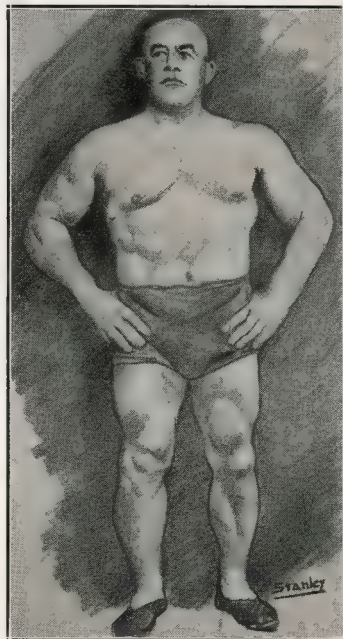
strength and technique made him a conspicuous figure in mat circles.

The war over, his battle wounds healed, Steinke returned to wrestling. It didn't take long for his fame to spread once he got going in the States. He had difficulty in obtaining lucrative matches after knowledge of his ability spread and he was forced to retire. But that temporary retirement brought him fame since he became much sought after in motion pictures where he portrayed wild and strong men.

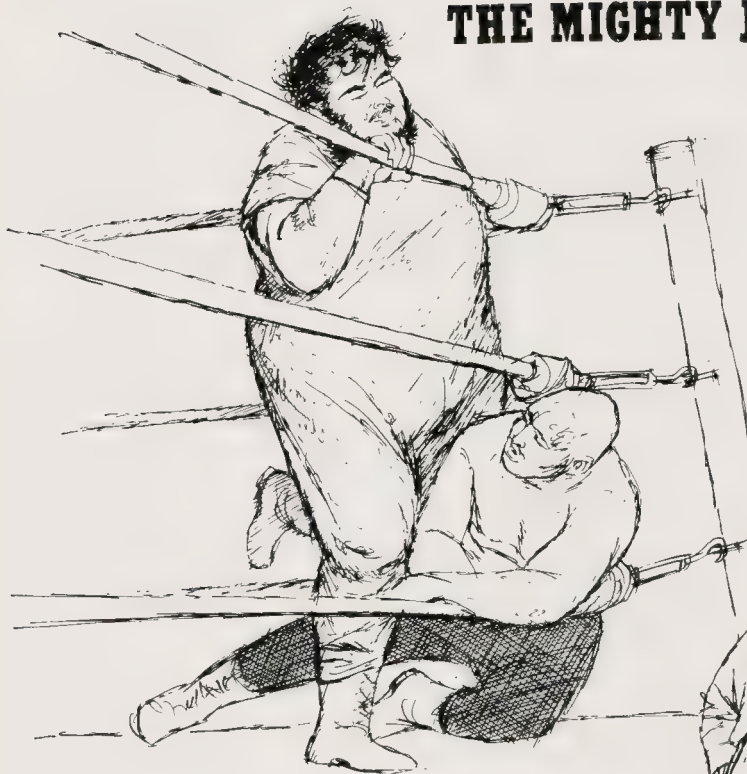
Steinke was born in Stettin, Germany where his father was a butcher. He had several brothers and all, like Hans, were built like piano movers. Hans was the most powerful of the clan and perfected his wrestling holds in impromptu engagements with his brothers.

When World War One broke out, he joined the Army and served three years.

Below is an artist's conception of how the powerfully constructed Hans Steinke looked in twilight of his career. Despite his advanced years, Steinke still retained all the outstanding features of his well proportioned, muscular build that made him a great athlete.



THE MIGHTY JUMBO



Mighty Jumbo, a rough 628 pound specimen. Above, we get a glimpse of his size in a match against Kurt Von Brauner during his Atlanta Ga. visit.

Despite weighing over a quarter ton this guy is quite agile in the ring. Measuring 68 around the waist, a size 26 neck, you can surmise everything he wears is special made.

A man of many hobbies, he likes to throw a big Christmas party for kids every year, and is a popular attraction with the fans.





The Duke of Earl displays his masculine pulchritude before settling down to the serious business of the evening. But before the long night ended, the Duke had other things on his mind, mainly the Christy Brothers.

amateurs can really be deadly!

Story and Photos
By BOB LEONARD

"AMATEURS! That's all they are, amateurs!" Sweet Daddy Siki declared as he crashed his fist on the dashboard of the Cadillac. "Hey, Duke! We're gonna show those amateurs how tough us village cats are.—Right, man?" "Right, Daddy!" answered black-haired, blond-bearded "Duke of Earl" Noble, grinning expansively while rocketing the car into a tight curve. "Those California beach boys are nothing. We're gonna cool them, man! Ain't nobody tougher than us village cats!"

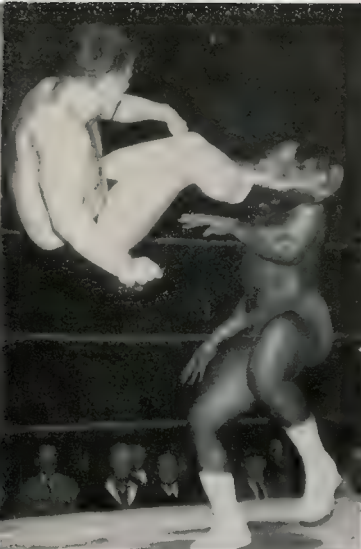
Sweet Daddy Siki lounged back in the seat, smirk on his face. "Those amateurs won't even show up," he told himself, "and if they do, why, these Christy kids don't stand a chance. That baby-faced Bobby, and his skinny brother Jerry—some of the chicks from Greenwich Village could chase 'em back home." Siki laughed aloud.

"Shake it up, Duke!" he roared. "I can't wait to get in the ring. We're gonna guzzle those Christys—eat 'em alive!"

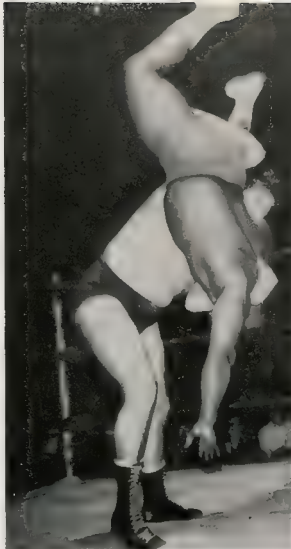
An hour later, the Caddy rolled to a stop in front of the arena. The hefty Negro pair climbed out, quickly hefted their bags from the trunk, then stalked into the dressing room. After changing quickly into their gaudy tights and white boots, they began their warm-up exercises, all the while talking about what they were about to do to the Christys and just how long it would take them.

And what of the Christy Brothers, Jerry and Bobby?

They had arrived at the arena hours before. In fact, they'd already gone through a brisk workout in the ring. Now, back in the dressing room, the brothers completed



The Duke, opening extremely fast, laid himself wide open for Bobby Christy's very effective dropkick which landed right on the well-known button.



Bobby's brother, Jerry, then took over. Here we see him slamming Noble to the mat, trying for a quick opening fall not to mention the advantage.



If ever a wrestler looked jubilant, it was the Duke of Earl, giving Jerry Christy a not very gentle head massage. This lasted about two minutes.



Along came brother Bobby which was bad news for Sweet Daddy Siki. Here Bobby pitches and Sweet Daddy catches—some bumps, that is—as he's about to fly out of the ring.



Sweet Daddy writhes in pain after being hit with a Boston Crab by Bobby. Siki was forced to submit and wasn't too sure he could continue. He later said: "I could hardly move."

their plan of attack, worked out last-minute strategy.

No greenhorns were the Christy boys. They had the book on Siki and Noble, and were well-prepared to combat the wiles of the tough duo.

"Hey—Christys! Get going!" hollered another grappler. "Siki and Noble are on their way in!"

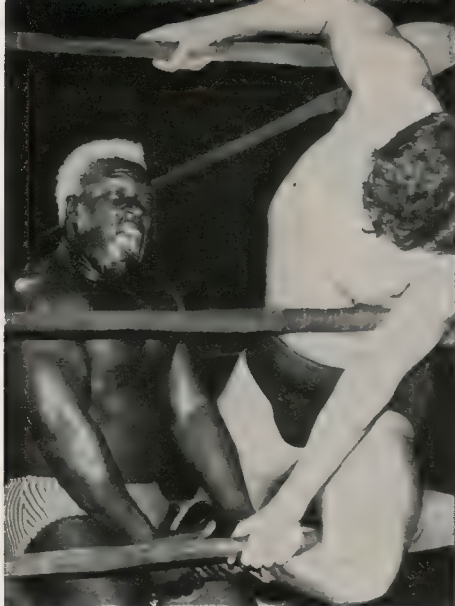
The dull drone of the crowd swelled to

a roar as Siki strutted down the aisle with Noble at his heels. On the ring apron, the Duke paused to display his muscles to the packed house, while Siki sneered back at ringside hecklers. After the Christys swung into the brilliantly-lit ring, the teams eyed each other coldly as the official gave his instructions. At the bell Bobby Christy bolted into action for his team while Duke Noble shot across the ring, intent on a quick

strike despite the danger.

He sprang into the air, smashed into Noble with as powerful a dropkick as he had ever thrown. Duke crashed to the canvas, only to arise in time to collect Bobby's boots in his bearded face. The Christys were quick to press their advantage. Jerry tagged into the fray and luckless Noble fell victim to the older Christy's barrage.

The Christys' blitz opening set the pace



(Above) Sweet Daddy twists Jerry's leg around the bottom strand of the ring rope, yanking it up sharply, almost hard enough to break the ankle. Siki broke the grip when threatened with disqualification. (Right) Bobby goes wild after bout, dishing out the medicine to Sweet Daddy, whose expression is pretty sour.



for the match. As the action progressed, it became more and more evident to Siki and Noble that things weren't going as planned. Their foes' speedy tagging, high-flying offense and rawhide durability thwarted most of their time-tested strategies, forcing them to repeatedly take the defensive role.

Siki's brain raced frantically. After holding a fast conference with Noble, the Duke swung back into action. He locked with Jerry Christy, snapping him into a vicious headlock. The Californian struggled free, only to find himself again imprisoned in those bulging biceps. Time and again he tore loose, but those skull-pulping headlocks finally softened Jerry up.

After Noble tagged out, Siki charged at Jerry. Hooking his arm around Jerry's neck from the rear, Siki purposely fell backward onto the mat. Jerry's neck twisted. His skull thudded against the hard ring floor. This was it—Siki's vaunted "Beatnik Drop" neckbreaker, his chief stock in trade.

Twice, Sweet Daddy decked Jerry with the vicious hold, then pinned the stunned grappler for referee Joe Lesperance's three-count.

The Christys were down one fall, but far from finished. In the second fall, they brought emergency measures into play. Luring first Siki and then Noble away from their corner, the brothers concentrated on only one thing—weakening one opponent's back, until he nearly collapsed.

Jerry tortured Noble with solid body slams, while Bobby chased Siki around the ring. The Christys were now aware that their opponents had slowed down—especially Sweet Daddy Siki.

The blond grappler then became the brothers' prime target. They battered him to the mat, belted him into turnbuckles and pounded his spine with elbow smashes. When Jerry yelled "Now!", Bobby locked the Sugar Man into a deadly Boston Crab.

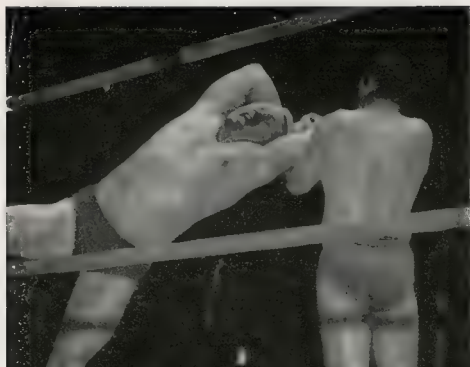
Once, twice—Siki slipped the hold, but Bobby bore down even harder. The third time, the agony became too acute. Siki screamed his submission to ret Lesperance, and the Christys' arms shot aloft in the sign of victory.

The bell clanged for the third fall, with Siki starting out against Bob Christy. Carefully, Sweet Daddy lured Bobby into a corner, then exploded. He shoulder-butted

(Continued on page 61)

Sweet Daddy and the Duke hold their ground after biting the canvas following Bobby's outburst. Noble grasps for the ropes as the pair look for the nearest exit.





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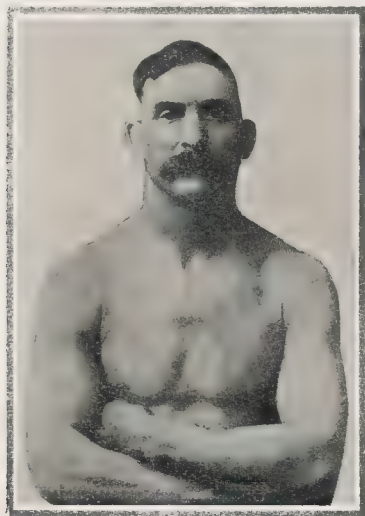


FISTS OR TWISTS?

***AGE-OLD BOXER VS. WRESTLER
CONTROVERSY HAS NOT YET
BEEN DEFINITELY DECIDED***

Frank Gotch (above), rated by many as the greatest wrestler of all-time, once tried his hand as a boxer, but with disastrous results. Farmer Burns (below) took the measure of one-time midleweight boxing titleholder Billy Papke in a mixed match.

By JERSEY JONES



NO TWO branches of athletic endeavor are more closely related than boxing and wrestling, and no two have, through the years, prompted more arguments as to the relative merits of their exponents in "mixed" bouts.

All other things being fairly even—age, weight, experience and prestige—which would win in man-to-man combat, the boxer or the wrestler, each operating according to the rules governing his trade?

The controversy has never been definitely decided, one way or the other, but there's no denying that available statistics of boxer vs. wrestler clashes have so far favored the grappler.

A boxer's best chance—in fact, usually his only chance—is to get in the first punch, quickly and decisively. If he misses, or if the punch doesn't connect with sufficient authority, and the wrestler closes in on him, the boxer's chances generally become nil. He has no defense against the grappler's vast assortment of punishing holds—the nelson, hammerlock, scissors, armlock, toe-hold, headlock, et al.

Of course, if the boxer happens to know something about wrestling, or has had some experience in rough-and-tumble brawling, that can be an asset to him. Frankly, however, very few fighters are qualified to trade twists, spins and holds with the grunt-and groaners.

Such noted old-time ringsters as John L. Sullivan, Tom Sharkey, Billy Papke and Sam McVey pitted their fistic skills against outstanding wrestlers in "mixed" bouts, with more defeats than victories for them. Sullivan grappled with Bill Muldoon but the match was never concluded. John L. rushed Muldoon off

his feet a couple of times, but Bill finally clamped a "bear hug" on Sullivan, lifted him in the air and sent him crashing to the mat. Although badly jolted, John L. wanted to continue, but it was decided to call off hostilities.

Fitzsimmons came out even in two meetings with headline wrestlers of his era. He knocked out Ernest Roeber but was tossed by Tom Jenkins.

Sharkey was beaten twice, by Jenkins and Fred Beall, and Papke was thrown by "Farmer" Burns, but McVey knocked out a leading Japanese jiu-jitsu expert, Tano Matsuda.

During Jack Dempsey's reign in the '20s as world heavyweight boxing champion, a match between him and Ed (Strangler) Lewis became so keenly debated that Col. Joe E. Miller, wealthy ranch owner in Ponca City, Okla., offered Manassa Jack a \$100,000 guarantee and a percentage of the gate receipts to take on the Strangler in a "mixed" bout. Lewis himself offered to wager Dempsey \$50,000 on the result. Interest in the proposed match was so intense that wrestling promoter Lou Cutler of Wichita, Kansas, promulgated a set of rules to govern the contest. The match never materialized.

Frequent boxer vs. wrestler episodes have been reported in the last couple of decades. In one, Omelio Agramonte, the Cuban heavyweight, lost a decision on "points" to Marvin Mercer in Jersey City. On a subsequent jaunt to Europe, Agramonte tried his luck again with an equal lack of success. He was pinned by Ilio De Paolo in Italy.

Archie Moore was one fighter who knew how to handle himself against wrestlers. As world light-heavyweight champion, Ancient Archie had three cracks at the grappling clan, and finished with a perfect score, disposing of Roy Shire in Agden, Utah; Sterling Davis in Odessa, Texas, and Mike DiBiase in Phoenix, Ariz.

Joey Maxim, Moore's predecessor as boss of the 175-pound boxing brigade, didn't fare so well when he was pitted against a wrestler in a "mixed" affair in Knoxville, Tenn. Joey was pinned by Corsica Joe.

Ex-world heavyweight champion Jersey Joe Walcott was downed by Lou Thesz in Memphis, Tenn.

Boxers turning to wrestling and grapplers trying their luck as fighters have been fairly frequent occurrences, but in this department the leather-pushers have been far more successful.

For some reason, wrestlers just don't seem to have the qualifications for the fist-fighting profession. The usual explanation is that (a) they become muscle-bound and (b) are too easy to hit.

There have been exceptions, of course. A notable case was Paul Berlenbach, whose careers as wrestler and boxer were covered by Paul himself in a feature in the October, 1964, issue of Ring Wrestling.

An outstanding amateur, Paul competed as a wrestler in the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium. Shortly after returning to New York, he was converted into a boxer, and went on to batter his way to a world title.

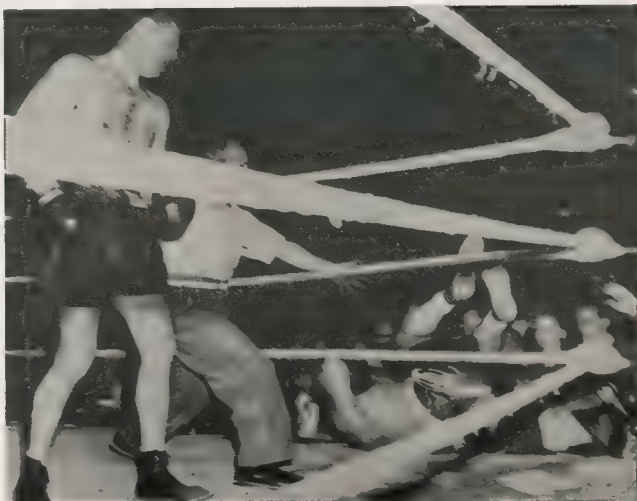
For a while it was expected that Dan Hodge of Kansas, winner of the 1956 Olympic heavyweight wrestling championship in Melbourne, would emulate Berlenbach. Back from Australia, Hodge shifted to boxing and displayed considerable promise in amateur and early professional competition, but over-enthusiastic handlers rushed him too fast. He wasn't ready as yet for the likes of Nino Valdes, then one of the world's top-rated heavyweights. Valdes wrecked him and Hodge, discouraged, quit the ring.

Some of the mat's most noted performers have tried their luck in the prize ring, with usually disastrous results. One was Frank Gotch, regarded by many veteran authorities as the greatest grappler of them all.

An Iowa farm boy, Frank was infected by the excitement of the frenzied "Gold Rush" in the late '90s and joined in the stampede to the Klondike. The prospectors of Dawson City, eager for entertainment, offered a purse of \$500 for a prizefight. The Australian veteran, Frank Slavin, volunteered. So did young Gotch. What Slavin did to Gotch convinced Frank that his future was in wrestling, not boxing.

Frank Malewicz of Utica began his athletic career as a boxer, but it didn't take long to convince him of the futility of it all. He switched to wrestling (Continued on page 61)

Cowboy Luttrell is making a reluctant exit from the ring after having been tagged by former heavyweight king Jack Dempsey. The action occurred in the second round of a boxing match in Atlanta on July 1, 1940. Luttrell was knocked unconscious on this, his fourth trip down.





This is lovely Jo Ann Phillips, winner of the tenth round of voting in the RW Beauty Contest. JoAnn thus joins a list of beautiful early round victors all of whom are automatically entered in the championship round. However, Miss Phillips just edged out Sepia beaut Betty Ann Spencer for tenth round laurels.

RW BEAUTY CONTEST

By ED BRENNAN

Calling All Shutterbugs



Andrea Swanson wound up third behind Jo Ann Phillips and Betty Ann Spencer in the tenth round of voting in the RW Beauty Contest. Andrea has placed high in previous rounds of balloting and will be a gal to contend with in the future voting.

STATISTICS, unless you're talking about women, can be very dull.

Fortunately for you, this piece is about females. It's about a very special breed of womanhood. It concerns contenders in the Ring Wrestling Beauty Contest.

After tallying of the tenth round of the RW Beauty Contest was finished a nice chunk of femininity named Jo Ann Phillips was declared the winner.

Jo Ann, thus joins previous winners Penny Banner, Judy Grable, Ann Casey, Rita Cortez, Kay Noble, Pat Sherry, Karen Kellogg, Princess Little Cloud and Bette Boucher.

Pressing Jo Ann strongly for tenth round honors was Betty Ann Spencer who missed nailing Jo Ann by a mere three votes. Other runnerups are Andrea Swanson, fifteen votes back of Betty Ann, and Evelyn Stevens another 30 back of Andrea.

The statistics on winner Jo Ann read: 5 feet 4 inches, 136 pounds, black hair, brown eyes and 36-24-36.

Betty Ann Spencer jolted all the contenders. A bronze hued beauty, Betty Ann is a marvelous piece of womanhood standing 5 feet 5 inches, scaling 145 pounds and with vital measurements of 38-22-38.

This is YOUR contest. So vote for your favorite beauty of the mat world. You may vote as many times as you like. But REMEMBER previous winners are not eligible for any future rounds of balloting because they already are in the championship round.

RING WRESTLING issues to all fan club members opportunities to get their literary effusions and camera shots published in this magazine, and get paid for them.

Every day the editor of Ring Wrestling receives suggestions for stories and photographic layouts from its readers.

Here is a chance to write those stories and to make those pictures, and win prizes with them. Here are the details:

1—The sum of \$25 will be paid for the best picture story and \$15 for the second best combination, in each issue of Ring Wrestling. The editors of Ring Wrestling will be the judges.

2—Stories may be in the form of interviews with male or gal wrestlers, biographies, comic incidents or any other interest-commanding material.

3—Pictures must be photographically perfect, and acceptable for publication in this magazine. Include a photograph of yourself.

4—Stories should run between 800 and 1000 words, and should be typed, double spaced.

5—Stories must be original and not rehashes of material already published.

6—All stories and photographs become the property of Ring Wrestling.

7—Picture stories should be accompanied by certificate of authority from president of fan club represented.

8—Ring Wrestling reserves the right to make such changes in accepted material as are dictated by the necessities of publication.

There it is, the big chance to get yourself published in the best wrestling magazine in the world and to win a prize with your efforts.

Send your material to: Fan Club Contest Editor, Ring Wrestling, 120 West 31st Street, New York (10001), N.Y.

This contest begins with the February issue of 1966. The winner of the RW Beauty Contest will be announced at that time. Then it's "Calling All Shutterbugs".

HUNTER WAS HUNTED

By DON FORD

THE official heavyweight championship of the British Empire was held recently at the Brixton Granada, London. The challenger, Docker Don Steadman, had, four weeks earlier, challenged Ray Hunter, the Tasmanian giant, to the contest after defeating him in a one-fall contest. Steadman, the man who claims he is afraid of no one, held the title during 1964 by virtue of his defeat of Ray Hunter. Steadman, who held the crown from March until October, lost it to Hunter when the ropes came in and Ray took advantage of the situation to snatch the winning fall.

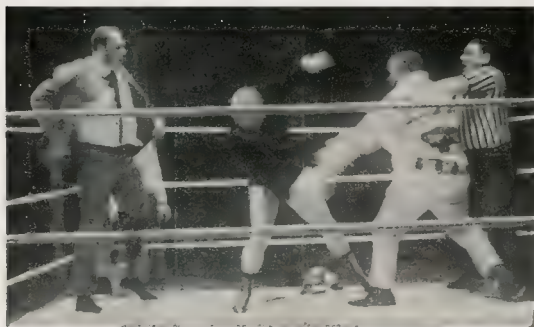
Two weeks previous, both Hunter and Steadman were introduced from the ring to the many fans awaiting an official announcement. On this occasion Hunter showed off his title belt, to the delight of the cheering fans. Steadman, obviously annoyed by this act of supremacy, dived at Hunter and ripped the champion's shirt from under his gray hand-tailored suit. Flabbergasted at this attack, the champion threw off his coat and offered to deal with Steadman on the spot. When the bearded docker refused, Hunter had to be forcibly restrained from attacking Steadman by Judo Al Hayes, the London heavyweight star, who was in the ring, waiting for his

match with Crusher Verdu to begin. As if by some prearranged signal, the Brixton fans bombarded the ring with a variety of missiles ranging from empty ice cream cartons to metal ashtrays ripped from the back of the seats. Unperturbed by this ugly scene, Steadman stood his ground, cursing both Hunter and the fans.

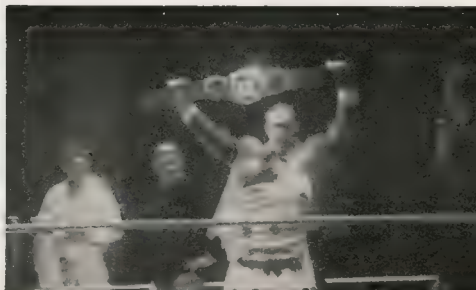
One half-eaten choc-ice missed its target (Steadman) and scored a direct hit on "The Ring" photographer. After five minutes of violent arguing, Hunter left the ring, clutching his shredded shirt and prized championship belt. Steadman was less reluctant to leave and had to be lectured by referee Max Ward before he would leave the scene. Afterward Hunter commented, "If that's the way he wants it, that's the way he's gonna get it".

All through the contests prior to the title match, the fans kept up a steady chant of "We want Hunter". When the time arrived, the lights were dimmed, the spotlight flashed on and picked out the shindig shield on the black leather championship belt pinned around Hunter's waist. Tumbulous applause greeted the champion, which is a good deal more than the reception Steadman received. After the pre-fight talk both men waited in the corners

for the first bell. Steadman, obviously determined to make it an early night, tore into Hunter with some ferocious forearm smashes. Hunter returned the compliment and took the first fall much to the fans' delight. Steadman, enraged by this advantage of Hunter's, delivered some mighty smashes to the champion's back. Steadman kept on and on, working all the while on Hunter's now weakening back. Then, with his dreaded overhead back-breaker, Steadman wrung an equalizing submission which was greeted with a volley of cigarette packets. The chant started again. "We want Hunter". It kept on until the bell sounded for the deciding period. Again Steadman worked on Hunter's back and again the champion was caught in Steadman's backbreaker. This appeared to be the finish but Hunter, calling on all his power, slipped out of the back-breaker and pulled Steadman with him to the canvas. One, two, three—Hunter was still champion. Steadman protested it had been a fast count but this was overruled, and as a second volley of assorted missiles were launched at Steadman, the referee pinned the belt around Hunter's waist. In Hunter's opinion that belt is worth any number of torn shorts and ripped suits.



As Docker Don Steadman moves aggressively forward, he's intercepted by Judo Al Hayes who pulls away Hunter's torn shirt from the Docker's grasp (upper left). Then (below left), we see Steadman being ordered from the ring posthaste by referee Max Ward while Hayes goes over to commiserate with the shaken Mr. Hunter. Below, we see the start of Steadman's assault upon Hunter as Ray was exhibiting the championship belt much to the annoyance of Steadman.





PFEFER HITS FOIBLES OF RUSSIAN MASTODONS

The Balalika-type above is Count George Zarynoff, circa 1924. The Count, imported by Jack Pfefer, currently owns and operates a night club in Worcester, Mass., a far cry from his mat days.

By JACK PFEFER

**Veteran Wrestling Manager
and Promoter**

**(Illustrations from the
Pfefer Collection)**

I AM over 70. I came here as a young man from Russia. My father was a rabbi. I lived in cities in Russia from which the harsh Czarist laws barred me. But I lived, and I prospered. But the Golden Land called me.

I prospered to the point at which I became the manager of a Russian Operatic Company, which toured the United States. I managed Pavlova, the world famous Russian ballerina.

Maybe if I had stuck to dancers and singers I would have beaten Sol Hurok to a fortune. However, I am not complaining. I love wrestling. I could not live without it. Let Sol have his dancers.

Just how much wrestling in the USA owes to me cannot be computed. I am not bragging. It is all history, written into the archives of the game.

Wrestling was dying in this country when I decided to move into it. Before long I was in partnership with Jack Curley, who came here from Alsace, and Rudy Miller.



Here we see the legendary Ivan Poddubny, who looks as if he is made of solid oak. Lending words of good cheer is Mons. Pfefer, complete with spats. In Jack's opinion, Poddubny was the greatest of all the Russian champions.



These huge musclemen are Alexander The Great Garkawienko (left) and Dmitry Martinoff, two more of Pfefer's importations. Both former crowd-pleasing grapplers have passed on.

In the 1930's, I went solo. I broke the wrestling combine headed by Curley and began to import more and more attractions from abroad.

I soon proved that I could outdo all of my rivals in the matter of ballyhoo, in the creation of special gimmicks, in finding genuine sensations in Russia, India, Bulgaria, Hungary, Siberia, Mongolia, Northern Africa, France, Germany and Australia.

I speak eleven languages. So I was able to make myself understood by the men whom I sought for competition in the United States. The languages,— plus the folding money and my reputation.

I sought mostly giants, strong men. Behemoths. The things I could do with hair clippers. I could convert a peaceful looking Cossack into a goon, a horror, a man with whom to haunt old houses, a subject for Charley Addams.

I was the first wrestling promoter to go for gimmicks. This in no way affected the skills and the bona fides of the giants I brought over.

I am very proud of what I did with the first of the many "lords" who invaded mat ballyhoo. I took a youngster from Springfield, Ohio, dressed him up in the height of fashion as seen on Bond Street in London, and gave him a title, a castle, an image unlike that of any other wrestler in the game's history.

Thus a Jewish lad from Ohio became Lord Patrick Lansdowne, family name Finnigan, from Barrington, England.

My boy looked every inch the lord. He was educated, liked

books, opera. He loved "Carmen", in particular.

He made himself a million. Now he is dead. He went big in the Middle West and out on the Coast.

With all the gimmicks and the ballyhoo, Patrick was a fine wrestler. But he was too light for the bruisers.

The most colorful, the greatest of all the wrestlers I handled was Ivan Poddubny, the giant Russian, a real Volga Boatman.

Ivan was not only the finest Greco-Roman wrestler in his prime, but he was the greatest eater, and thereby hangs a tale. I could not afford to support him here and eventually was forced to send him back to the Volga, black bread, caviar and Kvass.

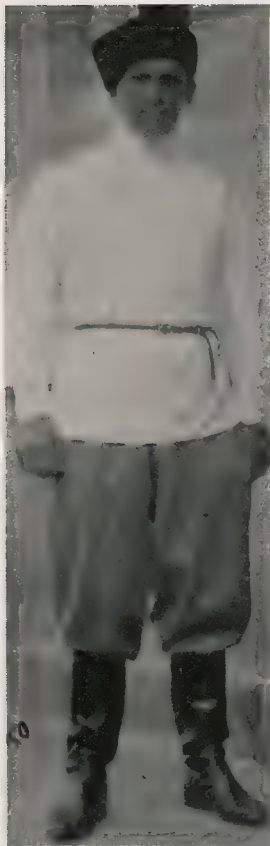
Poddubny was here for only a couple of weeks when he learned three English words—Ham and Eggs.

Wherever Ivan went, it was "Ham and Eggs" all day long. The expense was terrific. Finally I decided that it would be cheaper to set up a charge account for him in a market.

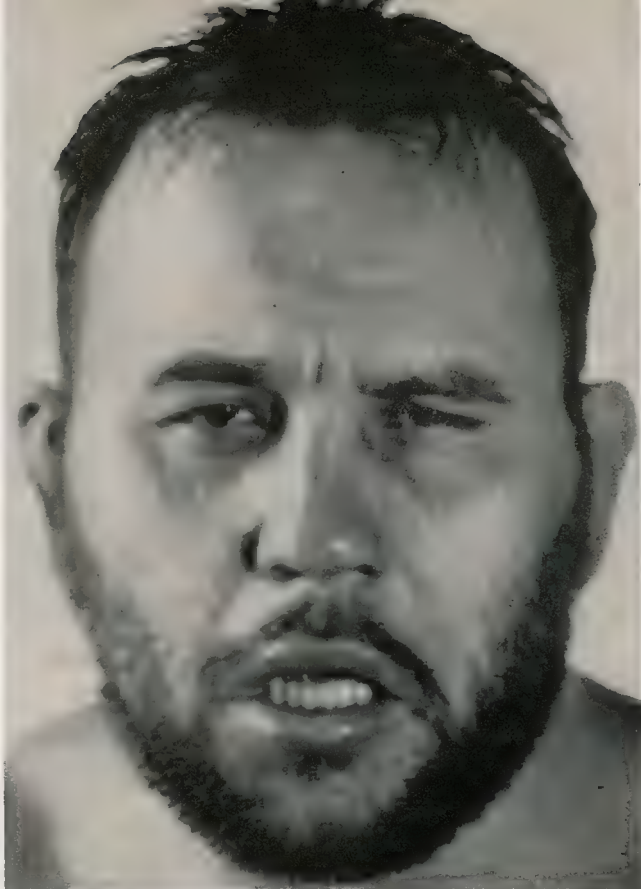
Never in my life have I been more mistaken. Ivan lugged home baskets of food thrice a day. His first week's bill staggered me. It came to a neat \$234. The gospel truth.

I do not claim for Ivan the world championship for all time in free style wrestling. But in Greco-Roman he had no match. Not that he was inferior free style. I don't think even so great a grappler as Joe Stecher, who beat Poddubny when Ivan was getting old, could have done that when the Boatman was 30.

Another import whose eating habits astonished me was Sergei Kalmikoff, who came from Siberia. Before coming to this

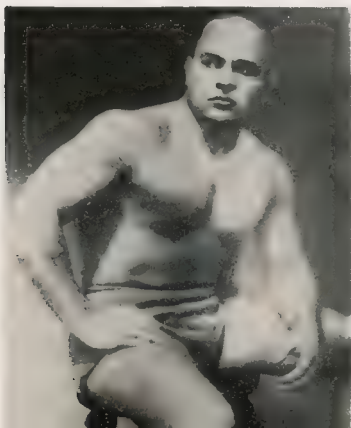


This is Matros Kirilenko, the Cossack, in a photo taken about 1929. Matros appears quiet but was a hotshot in the ring.



This is a face that you wouldn't want to see at your bedroom window at night, or even during the daytime. It's Vanka Zelezniak, another import who runs a night club in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This photograph was snapped in 1924.

Here's another shot, in a thinking man's pose, of Count George Zarynoff, who looks a bit wide in the waist, to say the least.



Lord Patrick Lansdowne, complete with retinue and symbols of his British ancestry, gets ready to suit up back in 1930.





Sergei Kalmikoff, who hailed from Siberia. He was one of the world's champion watermelon eaters, having been known to eat two whole ones at a sitting.

country he never had seen a watermelon. Once he had tasted this American delicacy he became fascinated by it. He could consume two big melons in one sitting.

The eating habits of some of the biggest and heaviest wrestlers often surprised me in another direction. Quite a few of the Behemoths were—and are—diet addicts. Some few are vegetarians. Some are fad-dists. But, in the main, it's steak and potatoes, and amazing disregard for fat producing intake.

Every man wrestler has a weakness. He may be daft about women, with a lack of discrimination bordering on daftiness. He may be indiscriminate about food. And, most of all, he may be money mad.

Alex Karkawienko was a strange guy. He did not trust banks. He carried his money around in big bills, in a suitcase. I was the only man in whom he had any confidence.

While Karkawienko was working in the ring I had to stay in the dressing room and watch his money.

There was another wrestler like that, Yousouff, the Terrible Turk. He carried his earnings in gold coins, in a money belt. When the French liner La Bourgogne, sank he could not keep afloat and went to the bottom of the Atlantic with his rich metallic handicap.

I have been asked a thousand times to name the all-time great among wrestlers.

I always reply, I cannot do it, and I do not believe anybody else can do it.

I never saw Frank Gotch. I never saw George Hackenschmidt. But I have discussed these wrestlers, and so many other old timers, with men who met them in the ring, and I am familiar with their opinions.

We had some corkers after Gotch and Hack. We are inclined to under-rate these men. Not enough fame is accorded to Stanislaus Zbyszko, to Strangler Lewis, to Aberg, to Ferenc Holuban, Lckonen, Stecher, and Caddock.

As I go over the lists of wrestlers whom I brought into this country, and Americans whom I developed into tremendous money makers, I wonder how I would fare were I thirty years younger, with the material which I had available 30 and 40 years ago.

I brought over Sandor Szabo, a college type, quiet, well-mannered. And I brought over Matros Kintlenko, the Cossack.

I imported Vanka Zeleniak, Alex Karkawienko, Ferenc Holuban, George Zarynoff, and Ivan Zaikiu, among dozens of others.

I did not always succeed in landing my man. I found many of the giants afraid of sea travel. I found some unwilling to leave home and family. I found many lacking confidence despite standout ability.

I found some so greedy that they demanded their pay before they came over.

Give me wrestling, give me classical music, and you can have the rest.



One of the champions of pre-Russian Revolution days was Ivan Zairin, the Volga Boatman, who is now dead. He won the Moscow Tournament in 1915. This photograph dates from 1925.

ON AND AROUND THE MAT

HOWIE Rosenthal, President of the Fred Blasse Fan Club, which has been growing in leaps and bounds, has been making a study of the real names of wrestlers and we thought you might be interested. Did you know that . . . The Great Scott's real name is Johnny Schweigert? . . . Mighty Bolo's is Pepper Martin?



FRED BLASSE

. . . That Cyclone Negro is Lalo Rodriguez? . . . The Assassins are Joe Hamilton and Jim Burke? . . . The Mummy is Bengg Ramirez? . . . That Buddy Killer Austin is none other than Gene Dubuque? . . . Jolly Charlie is Al Smith? . . . Eddie Graham is Eddie Gossett? . . . Don Curtis is Don Beitelman? . . . and the incomparable Karl Gotch is Karl Krauser?

Did you know that Dick Shikat, one time mat champ and one of the all time greats, is now doing physical therapy work on the steamship United States? . . . That Hans Steinke, another one-time super star, works in a bar and grill in Chicago?

Pat McGill who will be remembered by those who were around in the 1924 era, and who was the "Policeman" for the top group is now doing well in Omaha, Nebraska.

Minnie Kelley of 3900-39th Ave., Moline, Illinois writes that she is starting a new club for Verne Gagne and new members are welcome . . . Jim Ryan, President of the new Dr. Jerry Graham fan club is also open to new members. Contact Jim at 15 Kane Ave., Larchmont, New York.

Recently in Columbus, Georgia, Mario Galento was accused of using a roll of pennies in his fist when he hopped Billy Boy Hines during a match. The pennies rolled all over the ring . . . someone lost his good sense.

It is a pleasure to see a real pro in the fc field back in harness. Vi Reuther of 142

McLean Ave., Yonkers, New York, has a thriving club for Bob Boyer and has the welcome mat out for new members.

Jerry Graham has a new hold that can lay an opponent out like yesterday's corn mash but as yet he hasn't given it a name. Maybe he'd like suggestions???

Wahoo McDaniels, Jet Professional football player uses a chop to the neck or chest which he calls the "Tomahawk Chop" . . . "It's the most dangerous maneuver in the game and is too much for any opponent," says Wahoo.

Chris Dundee, ace boxing promoter in Miami Beach, Florida, is also doing a good job in the wrestling field.

Can you imagine Waldo Von Erich raising cows? Well, he does—in Canada . . . for the milk I suppose.

Hans Mortier, who did a good job as a singles star and then in a brother duo, has a real name, it's Jacob Grobber . . . He is now doing a successful stint on the Continent.

Larry Simon is currently performing in the ring as Boris Malenko . . . The Magnificent Maurice who enters the ring with a cape and hat, was once a sailor . . . Baba The Giant was once a softball star in Japan.

Freddy Rogers has a fan club started for him by Theresa Alis, of 2617 West 68th Street, Chicago, Illinois. Theresa writes that for a \$1.50 membership fee for a year, she will send members an 8x10 personally autographed photo, a wallet-sized photo, a membership card, data sheet and three bulletins. Go boy! Go!

A wrestler to watch in Seattle rings is Cowboy Mat Casey, a former Southwest Rodeo star whose 6 feet 1 inch and 240 pounds is all muscles combined with ability . . . with experience, he could be a winner.



Eddie Graham, whose career in Florida has been spectacular.

By NAT LOUBET



Ricki Starr has changed his mind about returning to U.S. and won't be back until this winter.

Jim McKenzie, The Scottish champ, is tabbed by some experts one to be watched. He looms as a future world championship contender.

John Pesek, an old time great, has a namesake on the Pacific . . . no relation according to our source.

Shade of Tiger Joe Marsh and Ben Morgan, who went to the movies and the legitimate stage—Pepper Martin is latest to go "Hollywood" . . . he has a part in the cinema. Ghengis Kahn

Dr. Bill Miller is the current threat to Bruno Sammartino's title. But place your bets he won't get the crown.



Bobo Brazil, who has a new tag team partner in Art Thomas. Bobo holds a version of the U.S. crown.

Pedro Morales still claims the WWA title . . . The Destroyer, may have something to say about that.

Jim Bernard is back in action after recuperating from a severe automobile crash.

Ricki Starr, ballet dancing wrestler should write a book, "My Years Abroad" . . . Ricki has been away for what seems years . . . He should be ready for a U.S. return.

Bobo Brazil, a version of U.S. champion, has teamed up on occasion with Art Thomas to make a formidable twosome . . . they recently made fans sit up and take notice when they defeated the team of The Sheik and Bulldog Brower.

The Destroyer is now selling lighters and other items with his hooded self firmly embodied . . . they make a wonderful memento of a great guy!

Steve Haggerty, the blonde Irish-Canadian has been making a hit in Great Britain with his tag team mate, The Wild Man Of Borneo. Their aggressive, wild, mayhem style is all action.

Fouring the Continent at present after a successful French invasion are the Americans Hercules Cortez, Eddy Williams, Chief Red Eagle, Johnny Kostas and Ski Hi Lee. Incidentally, Gil Leduc is still one of the top men in Paris after fifteen years of stardom.

Larry, "Pretty Boy" Henning, who was taught by Verne Gagne, has switched from scientific to mauling tactics . . . His hair pulling is almost as convincing as his side hiplock.

In Tampere, Finland, the Soviet Union

won seven of the eight titles in the world Greco-Roman amateur championships while an American team could only watch from the bench.

Rex Peery, who built the Pittsburgh University wrestling team into a collegiate power, has resigned as coach but will remain at Pitt as a physical education instructor.

Jim Londos is remembered for his whirling, twirling, airplane spin but his most devastating hold was his Boston Crab, one of the most painful holds in the book.

Robert Duranton, the cigar smoker and Ted Lewin, caught by candid camera reading their favorite wrestling magazine . . . RW natch!

Mike Valentino, the 200 pounder who towers some six feet four inches and who now employs the villain approach after an early start as a scientific grappler, has notched only two injuries—a busted beak and a set of cauliflower ears, after ten years of grunt and groaning.

Pressure is being exerted on the New York Athletic Commission to allow women wrestling. Empire State officials are being pressed on the issue that women cannot be discriminated against . . . that they have the same rights as athletes to compete in the ring as do men. They're prettier to look at too!

Count Bartelli, a masked terror who has Great Britain fans clamoring for his type of mayhem.



Above: Jim Bernard, a veteran who is back in action after recuperation from an auto accident. Right: Jim Londos, an ex champion as he looked in his heyday when his Boston Crab hold was the most painful in the game.

JIM BROWNING, WRESTLING MASTER, NOW FORGOTTEN

By TED CARROLL

THE perennial popularity of wrestling keeps the memories of most of its heroes fresh, and the prowess of Strangler Lewis, the artistry of Earl Caddock, the might of George Hackenschmidt, the magnetism of Jim Londos, the talent of Frank Gotch, and the skill of Joe Stecher live again in reminiscence whenever wrestling people gather.

Nor are such titans of the past as "Tigerman" John Pesek, powerful Ivan Poddubny, Tom Jenkins, the famed Zbysko brothers, Ray Steele, Jack Sherry, and Gus Sonnenberg neglected when nostalgia-nourished enconium is being passed out. Rarely in such wrestling reflections, does the name of a man who rated with the very best come up—Jim Browning.

This could be due in part to the shocking suddenness of his passing at the untimely age of thirty in 1936 from an ailment which was never publicly diagnosed. For the short period of time during which he was the recognized champion, Browning impressed as one of the most capable wrestlers of his era.

During his title tenure of less than a year and a half—Feb. 21, 1933 to June 24, 1934—Jim met all comers with spectacular success. Besides being a most accomplished all round grappler Browning was electrifying in action. This was due to his mastery of the fantastic airplane scissors.

At the outset of his career Browning made a careful study of Stecher's scissors, and discovering great latent power in his own legs gave Joe's famous hold an exciting embellishment. Browning developed his own technique of applying a routine body scissors and then manipulating his legs in such fashion that his opponent was lifted in the air and then twisted and twirled, with great pressure applied at the same time.

The climax would come when his foe, weakened by the maneuver and breathing with difficulty would be dropped to the mat and subsequently pinned.

Browning, a native of Missouri, first attracted attention in the Middle West with his thrilling scissors. After being observed in action by Paul Bowser he was signed by the Boston impresario. New England fans went wild over Browning with his churning legs and all-round ability.

In 1933 the grappling game was still in the grip of diverse title claimers sponsored by the groups which maintained territorial rights in various sections of the country.

New England was Bowser's sphere of influence and he presented Browning as the "Down East" pretender to the throne. Ed Don George, Lewis and Londos also proclaimed themselves wearers of the wrestling crown. Since the indestructible Lewis had N.B.A. blessing as well as New York State designation as champion, his claim was most solid.

On January 24, 1933 in Madison Square Garden, Browning got his first chance at the war worn veteran. Considered past his prime, the wily Lewis, making up for any physical retrogression with the advantages of long experience, confounded the 7000 customers present by pinning the new mat marvel in 34:52 minutes.

Although beaten, Browning's showing clearly entitled him to another chance. This was provided by astute promoter Jack Curley on February 21, 1934. This time Browning and his airplane scissors prevailed. Lewis, gripped by Browning's gyrating gams, and finding his famed headlock thwarted by Jim's clever defense, was whirled into the air, pin-wheeled about for several minutes, then dumped to the canvas. There he lay as referee Jack Denning gave Browning the tap of victory and the title.

That Browning, through uncanny coordination of muscular power and dexterity, was able to hoist the blubbery 240 pound Lewis in the air and, using his underpinning, twirl him around like a circus juggler, seemed unbelievable but this is what had happened.

In explaining his incredible talent Browning revealed he had spent long hours of practicing, whirling a water filled barrel around between his legs while lying on his back, in perfecting the unique hold.

The airplane spin became the most publicized hold in wrestling and the canny Bowser and his protegee Browning exploited it to the fullest. Browning became one of the busiest performers in a sport which is noted for continuous performance. Now a New York favorite, he had four Garden showings averaging better than 12,000 spectators each time, remarkable considering the blight cast upon the entire nation by the great Depression in 1933.

Browning took on all comers everywhere during the remainder of 1933. Among the good ones he defended his title successfully against were Big Hans Steinke, Gus Sonnenberg, Henri De Glane, Sammy Stein, Joe Malcewicz and a raft of others whose title ambitions could not survive the airplane scissors.

Only Ed Don George, a rival title claimant, stood between Browning and complete mat supremacy and he was an obstacle the man from Missouri never entirely removed from his championship path.

Three meetings between Browning and George had similar results being called draws with neither man showing clear superiority. George had figured out a way to work himself out of the octopus-like airplane scissors and his own flying tackle gave the champion plenty of trouble.

In the meantime ex Notre Dame footballer "Jumpin Joe" Savoldi had gained a controversial victory over Londos, the Mid West title pretender, in the Chicago Stadium on April 8, 1933.

Seeking a way out of the title tangle which had so long afflicted the grappling game, promoters moved to match Savoldi and Browning. They met in New York's Yankee Stadium. Envisioning a stadium jammed with New York "subway alumni" attracted by Jumping Joe's Notre Dame background, the promoters were disappointed as a threat of rain put a damper on the attendance. A torrential downpour soaked everyone at the start of the show.

Thereafter a drenched disgruntled crowd took out its dis-

comfort on the wrestlers, whose efforts they found unsatisfactory. The feeling prevailed that Jim was unduly solicitous of Savoldi and could have ended matters much sooner, than the one hour and fifty minutes of lack-lustre action resulting in a curfew decision for the champion.

Although Browning, who far out-matched the ex-fullback in the finer points of the game, probably felt he was favoring the crowd in not sending them home too early, the customers did not see it that way. For the first and only time in his career the crowd-pleasing Browning was a victim of the crowd's displeasure.

Despite this puncture in his popularity in New York, Browning continued to assert his superiority over the field. Jim Londos retained his magnetic appeal, so on June 21, 1934, the two came together in a match designed to clarify the championship picture.

The contest took place in the long since dismantled Garden Bowl in Long Island City, and thereby hangs a tale.

One of the strangest hexes in sport had haunted this sprawling wooden structure

built on the Long Island flatlands. No boxing champion ever had come out of it still a titleholder. The first of these was Max Schmeling, who saw his title awarded to Jack Sharkey on a very close decision. Then Sharkey lost his championship to big Primo Carnera, a man he had easily beaten.

Welterweight champion Jimmy McLarni

lost his crown to Barney Ross in a match many thought he had won. Then Ross lost it back to McLarnin on another much criticized decision.

Carnera lost his championship to Baer who as a 100-to-one shot, to win, lost to James J. Braddock. Ross lost the welterweight championship, which he had won

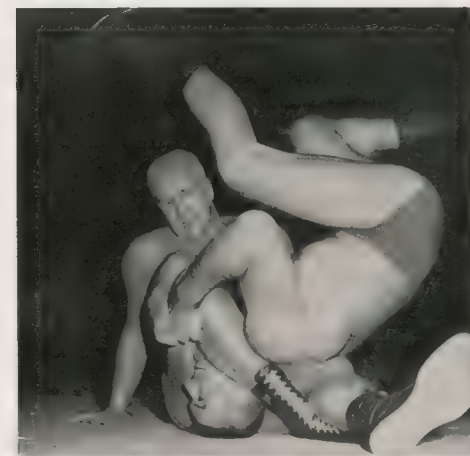
(Continued on page 61)



...ONE OF THE
BEST OF HIS
TIME... HIS
SPECTACULAR
"AIRPLANE
SCISSORS" BEAT
LEWIS FOR THE
CHAMPIONSHIP IN 1933...
JIM LONDOS AIDED BY THE
"GARDEN BOWL HEX"
WON THE TITLE FROM HIM
ON JUNE 21, 1934...



Big Orton, ever unsmiling before entering the squared circle, is used to the many jeers, catcalls and boos he receives from the audience. Bob seems to be a guy the crowd loves to hate.



Orton is shown here attempting to make mincemeat out of Don Curtis with a head scissors. Curtis went through several minutes of rather violent gyrations while trying to get out of his scrape which gave him a stiff neck and bees in his bonnet.

Big Bob Orton

The Secret Word Is 'Piledriver'

By G. ROSS PARSONS

"I haven't got time to meet every wrestler in the world," stated big Bob Orton. "But I doubt that any of them can do much wrestling once they've felt the Piledriver send their eyebrows down to their kneecaps. I've got that hold perfected, and though I don't like it, I hate to use it, and it should be barred from use in the ring. I'm still going to use it to drive myself into the ring until I'm too old and

worn out to do anything at all."

Then the 265 pounds of muscle and man rolled over to start another round of sit ups.

This is the attitude of the man who tore the U.S. Heavyweight Championship belt away from Pat O'Connor at Des Moines in 1954 after working his way up from the sweat factory district of industrial Kansas City, Kansas; through the police gyms run by Joe Edleman and into the thick of heavyweight wrestling competition.

"I actually started my mat career in 1950, when I sort of allowed my 205 pounds to be used as a punching bag. I was literally thrown through the school of hard knocks and still learned to love the sport. The biggest memories of those first few years are of the quantities of milk, bananas and raw eggs I ate while on a year-long weight-gaining kick." And the solidity of the man showed that a lot of hard work went along with that diet.

An early bout with NWA titleholder

Lou Thesz gave Bob a loss in two straight falls, but at the same time gave him "one hell of a wrestling lesson."

"I knew then", said Bob, "I had a long way to go, but I was going to have another crack at Lou's title. I took the grand tour of the world. Anyplace I could get bookings was the route I used. South, east, north, west, Canada, the Far East, Hawaii. You name it and I've got mat burns from there."

Orton kept improving, gaining weight,

while learning his job. He began to increase his percentage of wins. Then came 1959, with 15 months of enforced layoff due to a back operation. This was supposed to keep him out of wrestling for good.

The one person who couldn't seem to get this idea across to Bob, was Orton himself. He was a wrestler, a good one to boot and wasn't about to find another way to make a living.

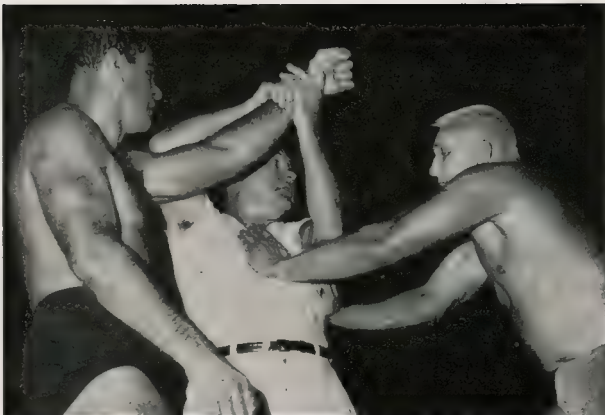
The tile and trophy hunt began. Pacific Coast, West Texas, Texas, Heart of America, Southern Heavyweight; the impressive list of titles went on and on. His aim was to hit a new territory, knock heads together until he got a title shot, win the championship and the belt, then move on to the next area.

"One thing I don't see much use for is the tag bouts," snorted Bob. "I can't see going into a match that isn't strictly me against him. It doesn't prove a thing to hop in and out of the ropes everytime one guy gets himself in trouble. I've tried them, and when the promoter tells me to tag team wrestle, then I naturally do so, but that doesn't mean I have to like it."

A victory that most grapplers would brag about came when Bob Orton took Buddy Rogers as a partner and left Vittorio Apollo and Antonino Rocca on the mat before a huge throng of stunned fans. It was the first Madison Square Garden loss for the fabulous Rocca in 13 years. But to Orton, due to his disinterest in tag teams, it was not a subject to dwell on.

The Orton Piledriver has defeated men such as Wilbur Snyder, Pepper Gomez, Mike Sharpe, Bearcat Wright, Don Leo Jonathan and the late Yukon Eric.

"One reason I don't care for the Piledriver is that every time I use it on a man, I have to look at him writhing on the mat and all I can think of is 7½ hours on the operating table, and 15 months flat on my back. That shouldn't happen to anyone,



NWA champion Lou Thesz' hand is raised in victory by the referees, but Orton, after coming within seconds of capturing the crown, vents his displeasure on the official. It took Thesz and two off-duty grapplers to slow down the Big O.



(Above) Ripper Leone, who served as Orton's manager for a brief period, says just what he thinks into the mike of announcer Gordon Solie as a bored-looking Bob listens. (Below) Orton demonstrates a perfect dropkick upon the about-to-be-crushed countenance of Tarzan Tyler, Bob's arch-enemy. It's action like this, coming from a 265-pounder, that keep the crowds coming.



unless it happens to be Tarzan Tyler."

That statement brings out the long standing feud between the jungle man and Bob. Tyler's damaging "foot stomp" once kept Bob sidelined for two weeks. The next meeting came when Bob stepped into the ring during a Tyler bout, and decked him with two short right hands. Picking the 250-pounder up like a sack of wheat, Orton sank him head first into the canvas and left him to be carried out. His only comment came as he smoothed the new silk suit he was wearing at the time, when he said *"That's the only kind of challenge animals like that understand."*

Tyler's month of wearing a neck brace hardly eased the enmity between the two giants. A packed house in Tampa saw a brawling 60-minute draw, with neither man able to concentrate on wrestling long enough to score a pin, mainly due to their intent to either maim, injure or otherwise disable each other.

"I firmly believe that wrestling is the king of all sports, and that the wrestler is the top man in athletics today," says Bob. *"I also think that in order to keep it that way, a 'bar exam' should be required by the various licensing commissions to keep out the showmen and clowns who don't have any idea of what wrestling is all about."*

Bob knows the field for what it is, and Bob is a tough, competitive member of that field. His extensive program of calisthenics, weightlifting, proper eating habits, 10 hours of sleep per night, and above all, being moderate in everything he does, has helped to bring him to his present position.

"If you go by these ideals, and keep your fingers crossed, you just might make the top," said the big man.

"I work about 175-200 matches a year," he said. *"I used to hop around a lot, but now that I've got the belts and the brains, I let the other guys come to me. Once I get in an arena, I make myself known, and don't leave that area until I've whipped all the local talent, all the imported talent, and finally given them a chance to drag in somebody who can keep up with me."*

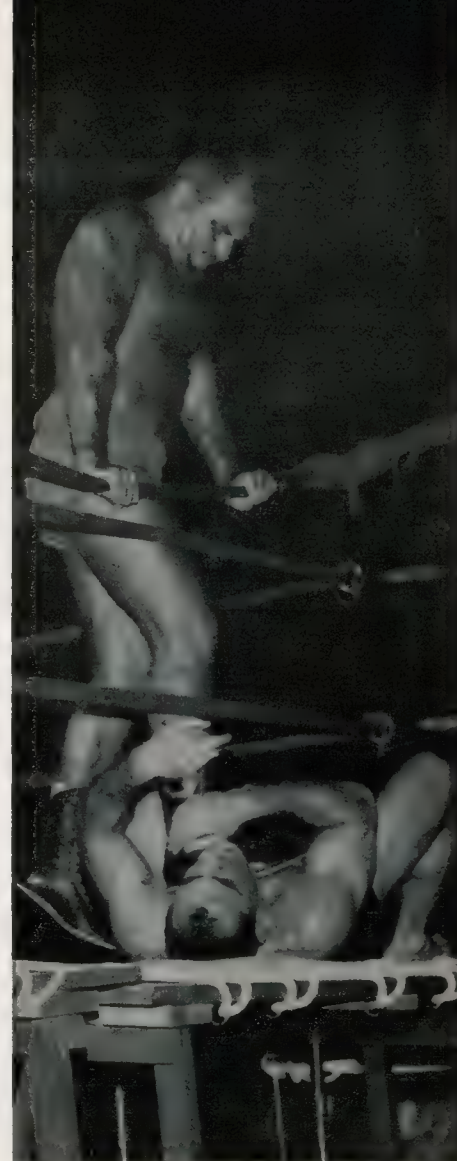
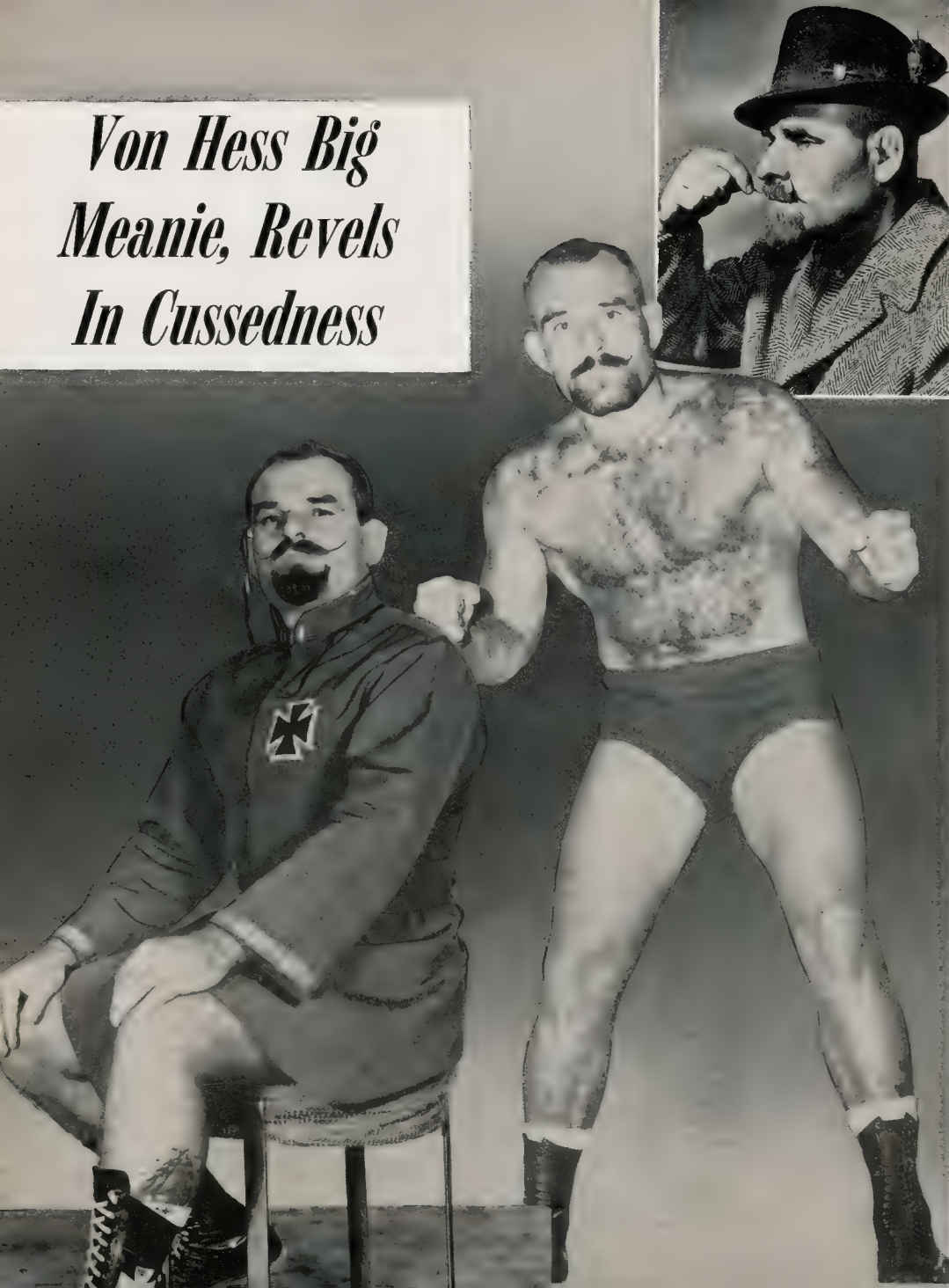
"I've had a couple of shots at the NWA belt, and I haven't any doubts that I'll collect it one of these days. My big plan in life, at least right now, is to get the belt directly from Thesz. I don't want some other knothead to luck up and slip the belt out of his hands. I want a two-out-of-three fall match, no time limit. I know I can outlast the old man. He may be great, but I'm a lot younger than he is and . . ." The thought that he might soon get a chance at the old master left Bob in a minor trance of enjoyable dreams.

But whether or not he gets a shot at Thesz tomorrow, next year or even ten years from now, Bob Orton is stalking the rings around the country looking for more titles and trophies.



Orton looks as if he's about to break into a broad smile as he executes his famed Piledriver on Cowboy Bob Ellis. Not known very much for grinning in public, it takes feats like this to bring out the humor in Big Bob.

Von Hess Big Meanie, Revels In Cussedness



Over on the left, we see Karl Von Hess, top to bottom, first as the Gay Boulevardier, then as the tough, ruthless grappler, and finally as a wearer of the despised Iron Cross of the German armed forces. On the right you will note that Karl is in one of his nastier moods. He is busy kicking his opponent in the face. "If he can get me down he is welcome to the chance to kick me," the Teuton Terror explains. "One of the most hated wrestlers in the business," a veteran of the mat calls Von Hess.

Storm Trooper Arouses Both Rivals, Viewers With Arrogance

By KARL VON HESS
Star German Wrestler

THERE is a lot of guff about boxing being a dangerous occupation. Now and then a fighter is badly injured, not so often fatally, and the sports pages are full of screams. There are more people hurt in bath tubs than in boxing.

But wrestling,—there is a hazardous profession. We have to pay extra rates on our life insurance. We get it right and left from other wrestlers and from the fans, as well.

I invite trouble from both rivals and daffy customers. I go all out. I am one of the villains. I am a villain by nature. I don't like cream pulls.

I don't like the other wrestlers or the referees. I don't like the fans. I have to tolerate them. But I don't want them as my out-of-the-ring companions. They are fickle and nasty and are governed by crowd psychology. Dr. Freud would have found them great subjects for study.

I have scars all over my body. Leaving the ring in Florence, S.C. one night I was stabbed in the back. A ten inch gash. Nothing happened to the maniac who stillettoed me.

Walking toward my dressing room after a match in Philadelphia I felt a sharp pain. A fan had bitten one of my fingers to the bone. Nothing happened to that looney.

I have been stabbed through the legs with hat pins. I have been cut about the face by thrown missiles. I have scars all over my head from mishaps like being butted out of the ring and landing on the concrete. I have been kicked in the face by ringsiders, I have been called the rottenest names. That's wrestling. But I am not squawking.

Believe me, most of the professional boxers could not take what we have to put up with. And we dare not retaliate. The customer is always right. "Remember, Karl, punch the dirty so-and-so and he will find a shyster lawyer and sue you."

I love to wrestle, to wrestle hard, to hurt the other guys. I give no quarter, I ask for none. I never let up. When the fans see me advertised to appear they know it will be for blood.

You see, I was a Storm Trooper in the German Army. I am the Storm Trooper of the wrestling ring and if you don't like that, well, don't bother to watch me.

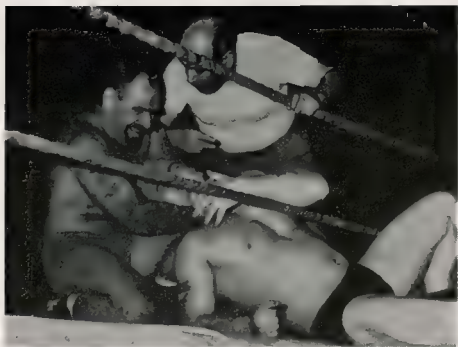
The best wrestlers in the world are from Germany and I am the greatest of the Germans. My tag partner and brother Adolph is catching up with me. I sometimes do a single. He goes alone only rarely. He has known American pro wrestling only two years. Before that he wrestled at the University of West Virginia.

I never went to college. I went to what is called a gymnasium or high school in Germany. That was in Koenigsberg, East Prussia.

We had two girls and three boys in the Von Hess home. There was no wrestler in the family. I picked up everything I learned as a youngster by myself, in a sort of YMCA over there.

I entered tournaments, won medals. I found out that the grocers and butchers in pre-war and post-war Germany would not accept medals, Iron Crosses and the like. Money. That was the big desire. Money. I still like it, more than ever.

I have filled New York's Garden several times. I like New York, where they have the fairest fans.



Von Hess is strangling his opponent half to death. But he is very crafty. He can shave the rules just about as closely as anybody in the business. The referee seems to be waiting for the Tattooed Teuton to make just one more wrong move.

I have competed all over Europe, South America and Japan. I just have returned from a three months' stay in Nippon, where they now like our American-German style of wrestling better than their sumo.

Japanese fans do not know the German-American style thoroughly. You fight for your life over there against both spectators and wrestlers. If you think there are tough kids in the U.S., go to Tokyo and see the muggs of the class of the guy who killed Rikidozan, their top grappler, in a night club brawl.

I have wrestled some of the greatest of all time. My one regret is that I have not met Lou Thesz. I am told that he is about the best. Some say Bruno Sammartino, whom I have met. Sammartino is strong. Very strong. I would say that his strength is his major factor over his wrestling knowledge and skill. He is big and heavy and is a formidable machine.

Thesz, they say, is an all around athlete, who knows more about wrestling than Sammartino. I say again, I never have wrestled Thesz.

Vern Gagne is a fine all around performer. Pat O'Connor is one of those specialists, relying largely on the drop kick.

Argentine Rocca? I do not class him one of the real powers of the ring.

I have wrestled Primo Carnera. He has HANDS. He has size and strength. He does not have the complete repertoire of the accomplished wrestler. However, I believe he is finished and I am not one to send him away with a rap. I respect him.

One of the craftiest and most dangerous wrestlers in the business is Hans Schmidt. Tricks? They haven't thought of any he won't throw at you.

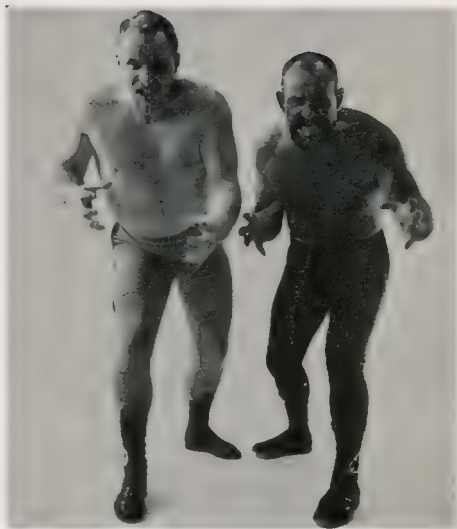
Dick the Bruiser? Now here is a vicious, dirty wrestler who never read the rules and wouldn't give a plugged nickel if he knew them.

My career as a Storm Trooper was halted when they captured me near Berlin. In the German Army I wrestled now and then for Hitler. I had to keep in top shape because if I ever went before Der Fuehrer out of condition I would have been shot at sunrise, or earlier.

It won't be long before my tag partner, my brother Adolph, will be one of the top wrestlers. He learns fast and has the physique with which to go far.

Adolph was born in the United States. I tried to talk him out of becoming a pro wrestler but he would not be dissuaded. "I like to wrestle," he said. "If I go pro I will be paid for what I like to do. I want money. Big money."

After two years in college Adolph decided that he had had



The Von Hess Brothers, as they look to opponents in the ring. Adolph, the younger member of the tag team, has spent much of his time in this country. He went to college here and is less vicious than the Ferocious Foreigner with whom he combines in the ring. Below we see Von Hess playing "twinkle toes" with an opponent.

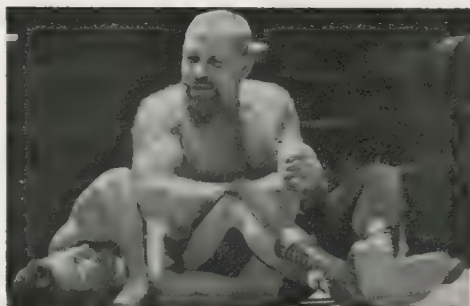
enough of books. He went to Florida and did some wrestling there.

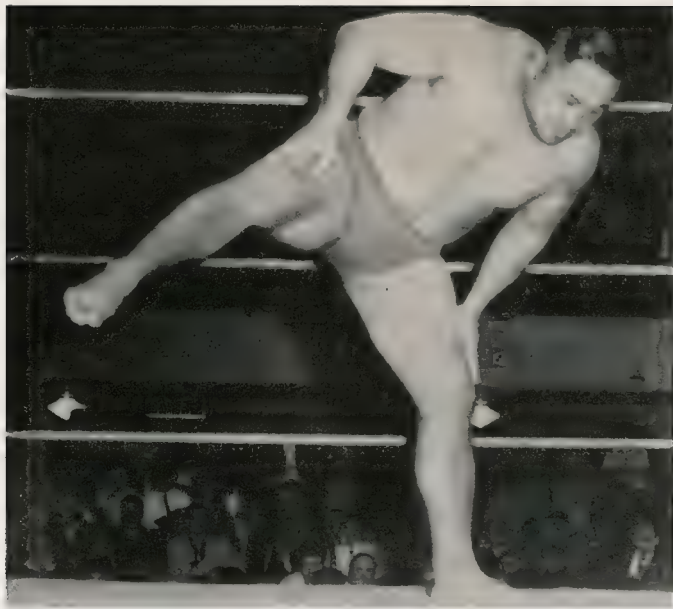
They say nobody has caught me smiling. That does not mean I am a constitutional grouch. I like a joke and can tell some funny stories about my many years in the ring. But in repose I get to thinking about the war and Hitler and the Sturm Truppen and the smell of death—well, those things don't make you smile.

I don't give autographs. I don't see any need for signing those programmes and pieces of paper. What good can they do me?

I don't try to make people like me. Most of all, I don't try to get into the good graces of the other wrestlers. I do not hang around with them, I do not travel with them.

I am not kidding myself that I can be real pals with the American kids in the ring. They hate German war veterans. They resent my "Heil" as I charge into competition. I resent them, and that makes it even-stephen, and who gives a damn?"





The powerfully built Japanese star Prof. Hiro is seen going through his pre-bout ritual that is supposed to drive away the evil spirits and give him the strength to post victory over his opponent. Prof. Hiro has something working for him because very few American wrestlers have been able to stand up to his withering attack.

PROF. HIRO: JAPAN'S NEWEST MAT MENACE

Story and Photos by **EARLE F. YETTER**

FROM Osaka, Japan, The Land Of The Rising Sun, comes one of the most sinister but cunning Jap grapplers in the person of Prof. Hiro, who is giving the headliners in both Canada and the U.S. plenty to worry about, as he goes about the project of moving into the front line of contenders for the world heavyweight championship.

Prof. Hiro took up wrestling when he was only 8 years old. Early in life he made up his mind that he would be a wrestler and that he would be one of the best ever turned out in Japan. He has lived up to that objective in more ways than one and has become one of the most menacing grapplers to come up the pike in the past five years.

Fred Atkins, champion of Australia, came across Prof. Hiro last year while on a tour of the Orient. Atkins saw in Prof. Hiro a man who had the potential to go right to the top. Through an

interpreter, Atkins talked with Prof. Hiro and asked him whether he would like to go to Canada and the United States to wrestle. Hiro was interested and did not hesitate to accept Atkins offer and made preparations to invade this hemisphere.

Atkins went on the mat himself and taught Hiro the rough catch-as-catch-can routines so prevalent in Canada and the U.S. Hiro was an avid student and it didn't take him very long to learn the holds and maneuvers that would bring him good purses and national acclaim.

In Japan, Hiro had prepared himself for invasion of the new world. It must be said in his favor that he molded his body to withstand the ravages of pro wrestling. In some of his first bouts here, it appeared he was immune to punishment. He would keep charging at his adversary in the face of withering assaults, to halt him in his tracks with judo chops and karate blows to all

parts of his victim's anatomy with very telling effect.

It became apparent that here was an opponent who was dangerous at all times. His lessons included the study of the body, its weak points and nerves, which when worked upon or manipulated, could render an opponent helpless. His strategy seemed to be to confuse or create a situation that his adversary would not know what his next move or attack would be. His attacks were chicanery and intrigue combined to create drastic situations.

Secretly, Hiro actually pickled his hands in a solution of brine and they became as hard as a bricklayers and could deal out terrific punishment. On television demonstrations he could break three one-inch boards with a blow from the side of his hand. Imagine then the damage that hand could accomplish when it came into contact with human flesh. To some opponents it was the same as getting hit with a meat cleaver. In other demonstrations Hiro could break bricks and stones with a blow of his fist. His hands are his most potent weapons while in combat.

Judo chops to the throat or neck, followed up with karate blows to all parts of the body were used by him as a softening up process. Indeed they accomplished their purpose and that was to render an opponent helpless and unable to protect himself against his vicious assaults.

While there were many who considered some of his attacks illegal, Manager Atkins reiterated that all of Hiro's holds were within the rules and that it was up to his opponents to offer some defense against the attacks. So, Prof. Hiro in the past year has moved right into the coveted ranks of contenders for the world championship. Atkins' guidance has proven to be a bonanza for Hiro and he is now being booked solid in feature events in both the U.S. and Canada.

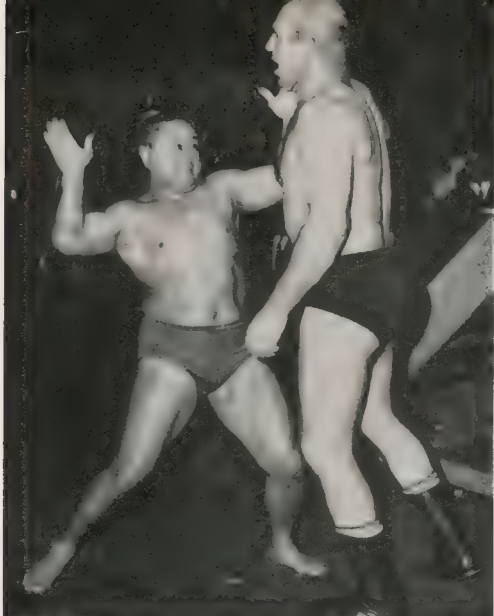
As a champion of Judo and Karate, he holds many belts and trophies which were won in tournaments in his home land. He was one of the first Jap wrestlers to participate in a judo jacket match in Buffalo, N.Y. with the illustrious Italian heavyweight Ilio Di Paolo.

Di Paolo had studied judo and karate while on an Oriental junket trip and when he squared off with Hiro he used the same defensive tactics as Hiro and it was a rugged, violent bout all the way. It was one of the few

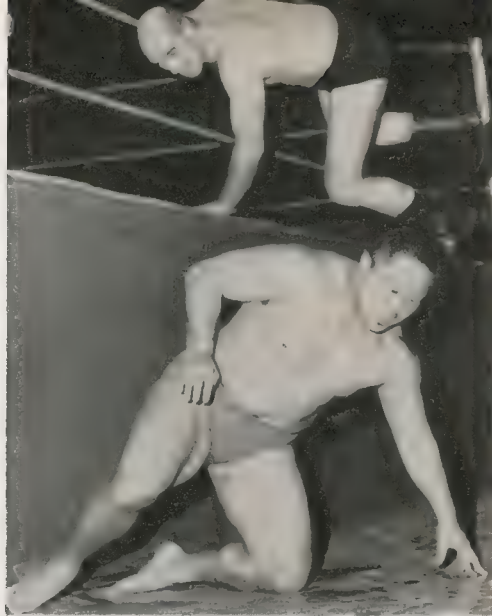


In picture at right Prof. Hiro stands and scowls at the spectators as they boo him after being introduced from ring before mat combat. The big Japanese star doesn't exactly like Americans because of what the USA did to his country with the Atom Bomb in World War II. In photo above, Prof. Hiro and his Australian manager Fred Atkins stand in corner awaiting referee's call to battle. Atkins wants title shot for his matman.





In this bit of action on ringside floor at Buffalo, N.Y., Prof. Hiro is about to clout Hans Schmidt with a Judo chop across throat. The Japanese wrestler and Schmidt engaged in one of the roughest matches ever seen in Buffalo with first one, and then the other, dealing out brutal punishment. Both were disqualified when they refused to return to the ring.



This also is part of the action at Buffalo. In this one Prof. Hiro is about to take a battering from Schmidt as latter prepares to jump on top of the fallen Japanese wrestler after he had been tossed to ringside floor by the muscular Schmidt. This was rugged bout for both men.

battles that found Hiro on the short end of a decision.

Di Paolo kept on even terms with Hiro and used the knowledge he gained in Japan to full advantage. He stood toe to toe with Hiro and handed out his own brand of judo and karate to the consternation of the smirking Hiro but to the admiration of the fans.

The bout was blood and thunder all the way with Di Paolo surprising everyone as he exchanged authoritative judo blows to the throat, neck and all vulnerable parts of the body. With both participants on their knees they kept hacking away at one another in close quarters and both appeared as though they had spent a day in the Chicago stock-yards slaughtering cattle.

When both gained their feet once more, Di Paolo took the offensive with solid elbow smashes to Hiro's head. In a flash, Di Paolo picked up Hiro in an airplane spin which is one of the Italian's favorite holds. While Di Paolo was whirling Hiro in the spin, Atkins came charging into the ring in an attempt to untrack Di Paolo. He was knocked down by Hiro's spinning feet and Di Paolo had to release the hold to maintain his balance. Referee Joe Muscato then raised Di Paolo's hand in victory, disqualifying Hiro for the interference by Atkins.

It must be said that Hiro is proving to be a thorn in the side of many headliners. His bouts with such stars as Whipper Billy Watson, Hans Schmidt, Bulldog Brower and other luminaries are among the mat classics of the past season.

"This man has everything in his favor and I cannot see how any one can stop him in his battle for the world championship. When he is not in action his gym work-outs are a religion to him. He keeps in perfect physical condition at all times, watches his diet and works constantly on new holds to use against his opponents," says Manager Fred Atkins.

"His battle with Hans Schmidt in Buffalo stamped him as one of the greatest Jap wrestlers who has ever stepped on these shores. The man doesn't pick his opponents. To the contrary,

he actually relishes the opportunity of meeting any of the big stars of the present day and that goes for Thesz, Sammartino, Valentine or any of them," says Atkins.

"It is true that many opponents do not welcome a bout with Hiro because they know they will not rest one minute when he goes into action. The punishment he can hand to an opponent is outright ferocity with all the trimmings. The man firmly believes Japanese wrestlers are the best in the world because they prepare to become wrestlers when they are mere children. With such a background it is easy to accept the challenge of any man who is willing to get into the ring with him," continued Atkins.

"Today, Hiro is ready and willing to oppose the best adversaries that can be signed to a contract. He wants to prove that he will have to be regarded as a stumbling block to any man who doubts his wrestling ability. I am firmly convinced that Hiro will one day be crowned as the World Champion," concluded Atkins.

In ring action, Hiro has been pegged by many opponents as a marauding, murderous, maudlin mat menace who must be regarded with high esteem at all times. He has the infinite quality of fighting back in the face of almost certain defeat and that is the stuff of which champions are made.

Only 5'10" in height, Hiro has a compact body of 240 pounds and possesses one of the most devastating offensives in all of wrestling. He is respected by every wrestler he faces, because they know he cast aside any gimmicks when the bell sounds for action and then goes about the job of winning his match.

He is attired in trunks which he tops off with a judo jacket. He listens intently during instructions from the referee. When he is offered the hand of friendship by his opponent, Hiro refuses to shake but bows to his opponent instead.

Prior to the bell or when it sounds, Hiro puts up his hands stopping the immediate action so that (Continued on page 67)

PAT SHERRY CAN'T MISS



The match may be easy, the going may be tough. But, as you can see from the camera shot above, Pat Sherry never loses her

glamor. Below, she is trying to hoist Sweet Georgia Brown into the turnbuckle. Eventually, Miss Sherry turns up the winner.

By HAP SNOW



BOSTON, MASS.—Girl wrestling has been a big attraction in New England for many years. In the late 40's when Mildred Burke made appearances before packed houses in the Boston Arena. Earlier, Cora Livingston, who married promoter Paul Bowser, was the local star.

Tony Santos, the big gun in New England wrestling, has thrilled thousands of fans with the gals from the time he left Bowser's camp in 1952. His top attraction during those years was the fabulous Moolah, who took on all comers. With the help of Jack Pfefer, who booked most of Santos's women wrestlers, Santos opened up towns in which Bowser never was able to succeed. "We were running 22 shows a week," recalls Santos, "every one a sellout."

Princess Moritsa, Daisy May, Jean Hogan, Mars Bennett, The Lady Angel, Dagmar, and Judy Grable were just a few

WRESTLING



Promoter Tony Santos is telling Pat that she should go in for more rough stuff, more fisticuffs. But she is not that type of wrestler—as yet. Her agility and speed is one of her main assets.



The blonde with the upper hand is Mary Jane Mull. The brunette on the deck, howling in pain, is Lucille Dupree, who long has been a favorite in the Boston area. Mary Jane won this one.

of the girls who appeared throughout New England during those years. This was all during the time that Bowser was operating the large arenas, featuring male grapplers. Week by week Santos drew in more fans featuring the women.

Eventually, Moolah went on to new territories, becoming recognized as champ. She still makes an occasional return to New England and continues to pack them in.

Meanwhile, Tony began developing his own talent, the greatest of his gal grapplers being, to date, Alma Mills. A tremendous wrestler, with muscles of steel, Alma became one of the brightest attractions in the female coterie. Her action-packed bouts drew large crowds wherever she appeared during the 50's.

Alma's finest hour came when she wrestled June Byers before 13,000 fans in 1959 in the Boston Garden. The bout went to a sizzling draw. Byers considers this one of her toughest bouts. Many spectators believed she was lucky to hold Alma even.

Tony says, "I don't believe there has been a better woman wrestler than Alma Mills. Her great strength, leverage, and knowledge of fundamental holds made her unbeatable. She was in every sense of the word a true champion."

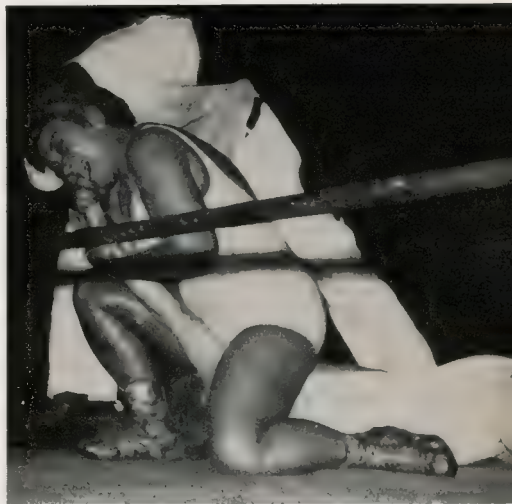
After an accident in which she injured a leg, she disappeared from the wrestling scene for a number of years. Later she opened a barber shop in Boston.

Alma returned to the mat in 1963, while Rita Cortez was recognized as champion in this area. Although a bit rusty at first, Mills began to hit her stride last year, giving Cortez some rough bouts during that long road back. Cortez and her manager Buddy Lee moved to Nashville before Alma had hit her peak. Mills soon regained the top spot here and has been highly rated in Ring/Wrestling ever since. Although she may not have the spark of the 50's, Alma is still a fine wrestler and showgal.

Another colorful and talented performer in this area is Sylvia Torres. The Cuban is one of the shortest gal wrestlers, standing an even five feet. She tutored under Mildred Burke, and like Mills, is an exponent of the rough-and-tumble brand of wrestling.

According to Santos, Torres has been in the game for 35 years. But, anyone who knows Tony knows how he likes to kid. In any case, the fans good-naturedly call her "Grandma". During the spring Sylvia was injured in an auto-accident. But she's back on the mat again. Her recent bouts with Pat Sherry have been some of the best of the season.

Pat is one of wrestling's top young talents. Many observers say she is the best-looking gal grappler in the business. When-



The veteran Sylvia Torres, who is mistress of all tricks, and all systems of pain dissemination, is biting down on the fingers of an opponent with Thanksgiving Day dinner enthusiasm.

ever she makes a first appearance in any arena, Pat draws moans of sympathy from the onlookers, as she looks as if she should be modeling an evening gown instead of wrestling. But, as soon as the bout starts, it's apparent that Pat knows what she's doing.

Deceptively-strong, Pat usually clinches her bouts with a series of body slams.

Santos says, "Pat shows every indication of being a top star in the near future. She is one of the few wrestlers to give Alma Mills a rough time." Pat has been unable to defeat Mills so far in a singles match.

Many of the top gal wrestlers make frequent trips to New England, as the territory is a good one and Santos is well-liked. Veteran Mary Jane Mull has made many tours under Tony's wing, as has Lucille Dupree, a Santos discovery, who is actually Lucille Palhus, from Pawtucket, R.I.

Sweet Georgia Brown, Bette Boucher, Maria Garcia, Andrea Swenson and Betty Ann Spencer are some of the top wrestlers who have appeared for Santos in recent months.

Unhappy wrestling fans who are deprived of seeing girl wrestlers in their states because of antique statutes are invited to take a swing up Boston-way. New Yorkers are reminded, it's just a short trip to this area, where some of the best-equipped lady wrestlers in the business appear. Come on up and see **TONY'S GIRLS**.



Pat Sherry as seen in one of the earliest shots taken of her. Note the hair-do which has since been changed.



Olga Martinez and Sweet Georgia Brown have Maria Garcia trapped in their corner. However, Garcia and Ann Casey came out ahead in a thriller in North Dartmouth.



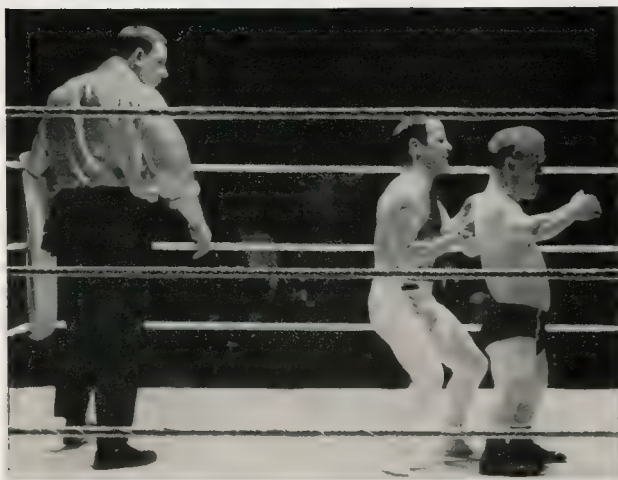
Is Tony Santos kidding? Or is he really trying to instruct the veteran Mary Jane Mull in the application of the wrist-lock and other features of the more impolite areas of wrestling?



Ex-Mr. Universe Beaten In London By Judo Al Hayes

By DON FORD

Photos by Barry Moore



The gruesome twosome at top of page in white hooded, flowing robes are the White Angels who are enjoying much success in English rings. The little matmen above are Tiny Ticky Starr who is applying pressure on Fuzzy Ball Kays. Starr proved too strong for Kays.

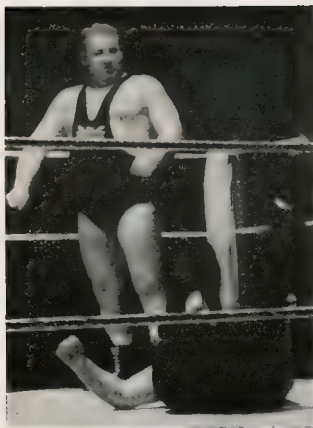


This would be an awesome sight to face in an alley some dark night. The fearsome looking pair are the Comancheros of Mexico who have become a big hit in England despite the fact they like to dissect opponents before flattening them on the canvas.

THE spotlight reflected off his flowing shoulder length blond hair, the heavy velvet robes trimmed with ermin trailed along the floor behind him, the physique that shot him to fame as Mr. Universe was evidence, he caused havoc at every hall he wrestled at.

That was five years ago. British fans still talk about this bombastic French star who took the British rings by storm. They followed his tour of America, a tour that lasted three years. With interest, they flocked to see him when he visited London a few weeks ago for a one night appearance.

This then was Robert Duranton. I say was, on this visit because the hair was still wavy but very short. The blond disappeared. Now it was its natural black tint, the robes were still expensive and flowing but they were now made of silk, the ermine trimming gone. The physique was still there and Duranton wasted little time in flexing his muscles for all to see. It looked as though Robert had changed his unorthodox style at last. But wait, he was accompanied by a valet. The name was Firmin and he dressed as a good valet should: white shirt, black bow tie, striped waistcoat



Shirley Crabtree is hardly a name for a male wrestler. But don't ever get fresh with this Shirley who weighs in at 400 pounds and is seen looking down at Big Bill Coverdale who has just hit the deck and is about ready to be pinned by the powerful fellow named Shirley.



Count Robert Duranton of France above admires his muscles prior to a match as his private valet, Firmin, stands ready to serve his master. The Count is a hot item in English mat circles and draws SRO crowds wherever he displays his magnificent muscles and his mat ability. In photo below, the Count huris Judo Al Hayes around ring. But Hayes came back to defeat the talented French wrestling performer.

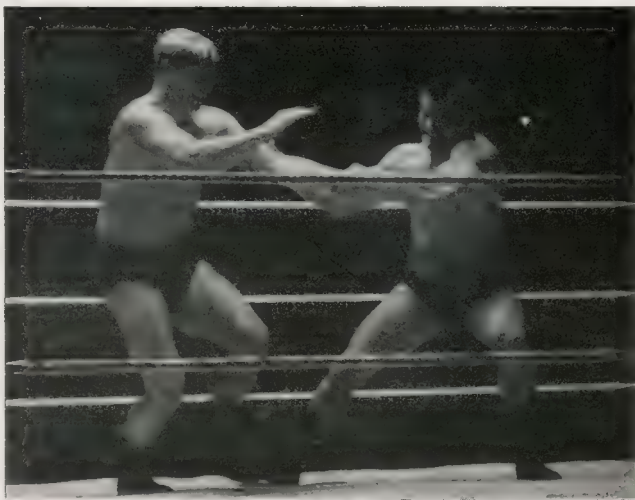
finished off by a dark suit.

Count Robert Duranton was back. He insisted on having Firmin as his personal second. The seconds provided by promoter Paul Lincoln for this Tooting Granada show were sent away. The Count refused to listen to referee Max Ward. He was in conversation with Firmin. In the opposite corner was Judo Al Hayes, a local boy, London born and bred. He waited while Duranton folded his robes and gave last minute instructions to the faithful valet.

The bell sounded, round one had commenced. The first round passed without any trouble. Round two came and passed the same way. In round three Hayes pinned Duranton to take the first fall. In the next two rounds the French wrestler, aided by Firmin, pulverized Hayes into near submission, but the London judo black belt held out until the bell.

In round five Hayes, obviously the worst for Duranton's beating submitted to make honors even. In the next round Firmin again interfered with the contest despite frequent warning from referee Ward. Hayes decided that Firmin should be taught a lesson and tied him up in the ropes. Then he grabbed Count Robert, tied him up opposite Firmin and bounced from one man to the other, sticking in a judo chop when he wished.

In round seven, after a short but welcome rest, Duranton once again aided by his valet worked on Hayes' back and tried for a submission. This time Hayes decided to dispose of Firmin. This he did with a series of English chops with Firmin on the wrong end. Then with Duranton shouting



at his valet for assistance Hayes pinned the Count for the deciding fall.

Both Duranton and his valet protested at the decision but hurried back to the sanctuary of the dressing rooms when Hayes threw a judo smash at the battered Firmin.

Other results saw, British Champion Shirley Crabtree a 400 pounder defeat Big Bill Coverdale. Ray Hunter Empire Champ defeated Mad Jock Cambell, Tiny Tricky Starr who bears an amazing facial

resemblance to you know who, beat Fuzzy Ball Kaye.

The White Angels held onto their masks when they defeated Mexico's Comancheros, and Docker Don Steadman was disqualified against Japanese karate exponent Chati Yokouchi. Steadman had offered £100, (\$300 dollars) to any charity if the Jap could beat him. He lost, he paid.

Robert Duranton has promised to return for an extended tour and Al Hayes has lodged first claim to meet the French star

FAN CLUB NOTES

By John Dubey

RING WRESTLING has enjoyed receiving the letters from all of you club presidents and fans. Burton W. Ray of MATMANIA has informed us that he has available plastic bumper strips four by fifteen in. Les which read, "I AM A WRESTLING FAN." These strips have a bright blue background with the lettering in the color of bleached hair. "So there is no longer any reason to hide the fact that you like and enjoy this beloved game," says Ray. "Be proud. Stand up and be counted."

But also has available bumper strips for 1966 featuring six of the most popular wrestlers today: Champion Lou Thesz, Verne Gagne, Johnny Valente, Bruno Sammartino, Pepper Gomez and Ricki Starr. These bumper strips are about by sixteen inches with the pictures being six by eight inches. For more information write to Ray at 2174 California Street, San Francisco, California.

Thomas F. Burke of the ALL STAR WRESTLING FAN CLUB has enlarged his bulletin and raised the dues to twenty cents and a new address stamped envelope a month. Tom's address is 31 Groveland Street, Springfield, Mass. 01108.

Leon Pierce has a sensational club honoring Les nearber. For \$1.00 a year you receive a membership card, club ribbon, 1.5 pennies, and eight by ten pictures of Les, and club bulletins. This certainly is a club well recommended to all Lew "Bee-see" fans. Leon's address is 702 W. 7th Street, McLean, Ohio 45206.

Bruce Bakstein, 247 Upton North, Minneapolis, Minnesota, has started the WRESTLING ALL STARS FAN CLUB. For twenty-five cents and a self-addressed stamped envelope a month members receive a bulletin and a membership card. On the membership card there is a number which may win you an eight by ten or wallet size picture.

Fred G. Carveth puts out an excellent news bulletin. RINGSIDE TORONTO, RT contains results, news of matches, interviews, etc. from the Toronto area. The dues are fifty cents per year for which you receive 12 monthly bulletins. Fred's address is 1280 Kingston Road, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada.

Bob Cunningham, Box 403, Sunnet, Texas, is the one of the Dory Funk, Jr. Fan Club. For fifty cents a year you get pictures of Dory, bulletins and a membership card.

All fans of Billy Goetz and Johnny Gilbert should stop a line to Joyce Kodras at 2234 South Saratam Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. For \$1.00 a year you receive a membership card, club bulletins and a picture of her honoraries.

Joe Fongesen, Jr., 228 East Julian Street, San Jose, California, has a club for Ray Stevens. The first year's dues are \$1.00 for which you receive an eight by ten picture of Ray, club bulletins, snapshots and a membership card. It then costs only forty cents for each additional year.

Isabella Luchini, 34 Viale Don Minzoni, Florence, Italy, is interested in joining a club for Bernice "Blue".

Betty Clark has discontinued her clubs for Wilbur Snyder, and Fritz Von Erich.

Other active clubs include:

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OHIO WRESTLING NEWSLETTER

Bill Hensley, President

Bruno Sammartino, World Wide Wrestling Federation champ, considered one of the strongest men in the mat game. A match with NWA champ Lou Thesz would draw one of the biggest gates ever witnessed.



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CHICAGOLAND WRESTLING

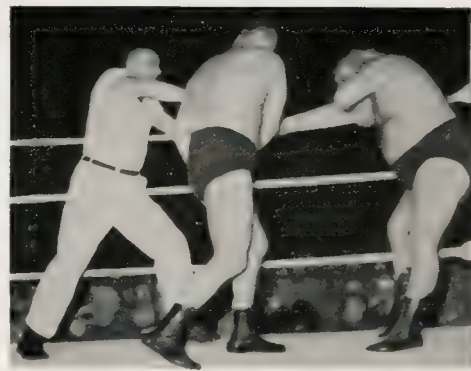
By Ken Ames

Well, fans, the wrestling scene hasn't changed much here. It's still wild and rugged and still drawing only mediocre crowds of 4,000. The most recent card resulted in a riot when tag partners, Wilbur Snyder and Johnny Valentine turned on each other while engaged in a match with Moose Cholak and Dick the Bruiser. In order to describe the riot, we'll have to describe the entire bout.

The first fall saw Snyder and Valentine in a tremendous job in beating Dick the Bruiser. The second fall, in the third fall, after Bruiser and Johnny Valentine tried to snap the second fall, in the third fall, Bruiser threw Snyder out of the ring and was knocked unconscious on his head on the floor. Valentine, finally escaped the murderous clutches of Cholak, went to his corner and got Wilbur Snyder and Snyder on Snyder. Valentine turned back and ran out on Snyder, leaving him to be pinned easily for the deciding fall. Valentine jumped into the ring after the match and got Wilbur's head open with vicious brain buster. Snyder, by the way, spent several days in the hospital following the combined attack of Valentine, Bruiser, and Cholak.

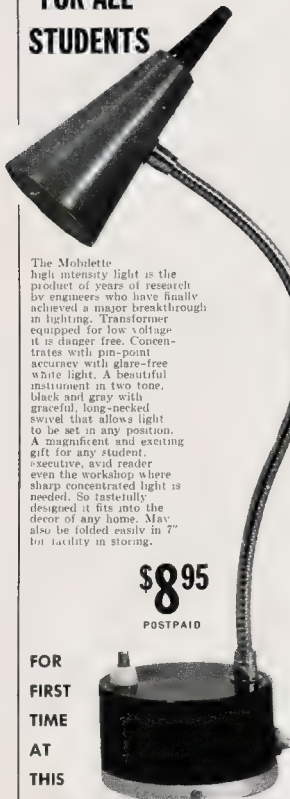
OTHER RESULTS: Pat Cannon was awarded the win over Angelo Potti. Potti lost Chicago fans in three years. Lora Conda beat Betty White. The Mongolian Giant beat Hal Nico. Volkoff was barely edged. Tom Prevost was beaten by Marmaduke. Matt Sammartino.

Ronnie Etchison, long the wonder boy in California rings, seen here attacking Dr. Jerry Graham. Despite momentary advantage Ronnie lost the match when Jerry flipped him for a pin.



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RALEIGH'S TURNBUCKLE

By J. Grover Lee

Promoter Joe Murdock continues to bring in top talent and threatens the championships recognized in this area. Joe's most recent import is the most agile Ron Reed. Reed, who holds wins over such stars as the Shiek, Rocky Hamilton, The Bruiser and a host of others, has shown extreme scientific ability. Other men who have ventured into the Carolina-Virginia area include: Felix (GoGo) Laman, Jan Madrid, Chris Averett, Big Bob Orton, and Dale Lewis.

Sir Nelson Royal has shaved off his beard and become a hero. Royal declares he and either Ray Villmer or Johnny Weaver will win the Southern States of America Tag Team Championship.

Master Homer O'Dell and his two boys, Aldo Boagni and Bronko Lubich, had nothing but glory this month in Charlotte, N.C. The boys, two some combined to take the Southern States of America Tag Team Championship from popular Eddie Graham and Sam Steamboat.

Since acquiring this honor the team has run over all opposition. Among the teams they have severely beaten are Sandy and George Scott; Sir Nelson Royal and The Viking; Royal and Villmer; Rip Hawk and Swede Hansen; Skull Murphy and Bruie Bernard; The Alaskan and The Beast and many others. Master O'Dell says his day would be complete if Murdock would bring in those "Yellow Japs," meaning Hiro Matsuda and Duke Keomuka, and give his boys a shot at the World Tag Team Championship.

Other Raleigh action saw world heavyweight champion Lou Thesz win over Ron Reed, Sandy Scott, and two boys over George Scott. The winners include: Skull Murphy won from Mike Gallagher; Peggy Allan defeated Margy Ramsey; George Drake over Jack Vansky; The Beast and The Mighty Kenkutsu, Jake and The ren down Alaskan over Nelson Royal and Johnny Weaver; Pedro Zapotta and Mike Padohus.

The Alaskan is proud of his new fan club in the area. Any fans who would like to become a member can contact Miss Ruth Gordon at 9625 17th St. N., Norfolk, Virginia 23518.

The popular brother combination of Sandy and George Scott proved themselves as the champions in the Caro-Virginia area. They whipped the slate clean by winning over every last contender. They began by downing Bruie Bernard and Skull Murphy. They followed up the next week by whipping Aldo Boagni and Bronko Lubich. Then they won a close disputed decision over tough Swede Hansen and powerful Rip Hawk.

Aldo Boagni and Bronko Lubich, under the able leadership of Chief, Homer O'Dell, have taken the ladder. They want the best-Duke Keomuka and Hiro Matsuda for a world championship match. Recently they have put two wrestlers out of action, Emile Dupre and Ken Yates. Yates was out for only a week after a brutal beating by the Aldo Boagni-Bronko Lubich team, but Dupre has been out for three weeks suffering from a shoulder dislocated by the "Gentleman" Master Homer O'Dell.

In other Tarheel action: The Beast whipped The Viking; Ray Villmer drew with The Champion; Edwardo Castillo defeated El Matador; Sandy and George Scott teamed with Abe Jacobs to top Bronko Lubich, Aldo Boagni and Homer O'Dell in a disputed decision; Penny Banner took Judy Grable for a ride; Princess Little Cloud won over Judy Grable; Johnny Weaver beat El Matador; Lou Thesz won over George Scott; Lou also took Johnny Weaver; Aldo Boagni and Bronko Lubich defeated Mike Clancy and Nick Kozak; Rip Hawk and Swede Hansen won over Nick Kozak and Mike Clancy; Sir Nelson Royal and The Viking beat Pope Gomez and Dale Lewis.

THE WINDY CITY

By Jean Bryan

During the last few months tours have been up to 4,000 at the International Amphitheater. During this time the fans have seen such stars as Dick the Bruiser, Pat O'Connor, Wilbur Snyder, Johnny Valentine, the Van Bruisers, the Volkas and Moose Cholak.

Bruiser and Valentine have a raging feud on. On Indianapolis TV, which is now the Chicago area, Valentine faced Jim Grabmire and Guy Mitchell in a handicap match with Valentine having to beat both Grabmire and Mitchell in 45 minutes or forfeit. After pinning Grabmire in 7 minutes he got Mitchell in his figure four grapevine. After Mitchell submitted, Valentine would still not let up pressure and Dick the Bruiser roared into the ring to give assistance. Valentine then released his hold on Mitchell and promptly smashed a chair over Bruiser's head. Bleeding profusely from the head, Bruiser was in no condition to fight off Valentine, who put his figure four leg lock on Bruiser. It took four policemen and the referees to stop Valentine who had gone berserk. Being led from the ring, Valentine was met by announcer Chuck Marlowe, who told Valentine he had never seen a more foul use of force. To this Valentine said, "I'll meet him anywhere, anytime." Bruiser was carried to the dressing room and is reported OK. In Malone, Moose Evans beat Mitsy Arakawa in a main go.

BALTIMORE MAT ACTION

By Joseph Yellin

It was a warm night in Baltimore when the wrestlers came to town. But nobody was thinking about the weather. The 12,000 fans that packed the Civic Center were only thinking of the unique and exciting experience that was coming to town. Promoter Phil Zacc had really gone all out this time.

In a required rematch demanded by the public, the United States Tag Team Champs, Gorilla Monsoon and Billy Watts, put their title on the line against Bruno Sammartino and Big Boy Braz. In the first fall, Bruno went flying through the air onto the shoulders of Cowboy Bill and pinned him for that fall. Although Watts repeatedly and openly evaded contact with his fellow strongman, he pinned Bruno after Monsoon had softened him up. The match, now being even, got reruns were trying their hardest to knee by Watts. Bruno was a badly cut lip. Out to get revenge for this, Bobo, who was soon joined by Bruno, went wild and battered Monsoon and Watts. As a result of continuous koko butts from Brazil, the Gorilla suffered a deep gash in his head. This and the other barroom tactics the popular duo used, caused their disqualification as a tag team.

The next tangle in store for the fans was the first of its kind in Baltimore. It was an "Indian Strap Match," where there is no disqualification and no holds barred. The two contestants were Chief Wahoo Wahoo McDaniel and The Golden Terror. To oversee this match Chief Big Heart was called in because of his experience with this type of match. After 7 minutes of fighting tied to each other by 30 inches of tough rawhide the two wrestlers lay on the mat. The crowd was in a state of excitement. Who was the victor? The referee walked over to the two forms on the mat and found that the Golden Terror had been choked into submission by the Chief.



Gorilla Monsoon is on the wrong side of the ropes in this bit of action. He and Billy Watts won by a disqualification over Sammartino and Brazil.

Another chapter of the decade-long feud between Dr. Jerry Graham and Chief Big Heart was written, this night. Anyone could have told from the way these two men wrestled that they were serious. This match was more action-packed than any other on the entire card. It ended with Graham being disqualified after 16 minutes.

Don McIntyre came back after a short absence to defeat Boris Malenko. Vittorio Apollo used his feet to upend and pin the Magnificent Maurice Arpe. Skozand used a reverse body slam to back slide to beat Tony Newberry, and to round off the card Bob Boyer and Ted Lewin battled 15 minutes to a 30 minute draw.

Shorts from the sport . . . Bruno Sammartino is no longer the only man to have picked up Haystack Calhoun. Waldo Von Erich picked the gargantuan up on his shoulders recently. Sammartino, world champ, who doesn't like to talk about wrestling experiences outside of the ring, is a well-spoken, well-mannered man. Bruno says he loves America and despite the tremendous amount of money he makes he would be happy without it. Bruno has brought over from Italy to the United States his father, mother, and two brothers. His family also consists of his lovely French wife Carol, and his 4 year old son David. . . Did you know that Haystack Calhoun drives a Ford Truck? . . . Since Jerry Graham came back from the Orient he has gone from 330 pounds to 280. . . Waldo Von Erich is losing respect in the east. He just isn't his old self any more. He says, "I'll meet him anywhere, a great deal to a loyal fan. Her name is Gorgette Krueder and I'm sure she won't mind me telling you that. She is a very nice woman. She is her boy and she is out to root for him every time. Right now she is busy passing around a petition to get the Watts-Kinski battle. She already has 500 signatures.

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BRUNO TAKES SPLIT DECISION

In a main wrestling event at Madison Square Garden, Bruno Sammartino, 260, Abruzzi, Italy, won a split decision over Dr. Bill Miller, 325, Columbus, O. A crowd of 17,134 paid \$54.54.

Waldo Von Erich, 262, Germany, defeated Indian Warhol McDaniel, 245, Okla., in 6:42 of a 15 minute exhibition; in an Australian tag team exhibition, Vittorio Apollo, Argentina, 244, and Miguel Perez, 220, Puerto Rico, defeated The Shiek, 238, Kuwait, and Smasher Sloan, 266, Butte, Mont. in 15:54.

Chief Big Heart, 250, Okla., and the Golden Terror, 281, Pacific Northwest, went fifteen minutes to draw; Dr. Jerry Graham, 300, Ariz., won by disqualification over Haystack Calhoun, 607, Arkansas; Sky Low, 90, Montreal, and Fuzzy Cupid, 96, California, defeated Jamaica Kid, 93, Kingston, Jamaica, and Pancho Lopez, 95, Mexico City in best out of two out of three falls.

CALIFORNIA MATDON

By Joe Pottgieser Jr.

Ray Stevens continued his winning ways at Oakland when he defeated Jack Bence in a skirmish on live television.

In other Oakland action Pat Patterson pinned Pat Barrett and Bearcat Wright disposed of Charlie Kalina, Pepper Gomez downed George Keate and Ricky Romero defeated Juan Sebastian.

At Civic Auditorium in San Jose, Pepper Gomez took much in his bag of tricks for King Starbuck and defeated the latter without too much difficulty.

On the same card Red Bastine did in Buddy Austin and Bearcat Wright tamed Pat Patterson. Juan Sebastian finished off Alex Medina and Jack Bence bowed to George Kosta.

Shibuya bounced back into the victory column at the Cow Palace in San Francisco with a triumph over Bearcat Wright. Ray Stevens, and Pat Patterson also posted wins at the Cow Palace. Stevens pinned Pepper Gomez and Patterson disposed of Ricky Romero.

In other encounters at the same arena the Kangaroos were beaten by Bastine and Ramon Torres. Luke Graham defeated Pat Barrett, Stan Neilson bowed to Jack Lanza and Alex Medina lost to Juan Sebastian.

• • • END

SOUTHERN WRESTLING NEWS

By Gene Gordon

Bronco Lubich and Aldo Bogni are the proud owners of the Southern Heavyweight Wrestling Championship. They rugged contest at the Ed E. Graham and Sam Steamboat at Charlotte Park Center to take the Belts before a capacity turnout.

During their long campaign in the Carolina-Virginia territory, Bogni and Lubich have become the most hated tag team to appear here in years. Their latest victory was a win over the highly-respected tag team favorites, George Beckel and Johnny Weaver.

They are aiming at a shot at the Southern States Title, and no doubt will get this chance before his story goes to press.

A victory over the high-flying Scott Brothers recently put them in line for some big bookings in the future. A real upset of the pair's conquests.

Making his recent debut in Charlotte was Catalina George Drake, who looked impressive while defeating the red-headed Swede Hansson. The newcomer, Ron Reid, upset The Viking in the opening prelim, promoted by Jim Crockett, who has done much for southern wrestling.

Chris Averett, outstanding Greek mat star, returned to the area to defeat Sonny Fargo at the Memorial Auditorium in Greenville, South Carolina. A former Champion of Greece, Chris is one of the real veterans of the sport.

Welcome back also is another Greek star, Mike Perellos. The ex-University of Tennessee footballer gave young Ken Yates, ex-captain of Concord, N.C., a wrestling lesson in an easy win on the same card in Greenville.

Formerly Dale Lewis, a former NCAA Champion from the University of ? ? ? beat Italy's Tony Nero in the curtain-raiser.

In Columbia, South Carolina, The Scotts, George and Sandy, won over The Viking and Tony Nero in a real donkeyhook.

Lou Thesz met both Dale Lewis and Johnny Weaver at Greensboro, North Carolina, and had to get rough with both of them to retain his World Wrestling title.

Rip Hawk and Swede Hanson got a win over Alex Jacobs and Dale Lewis at the YMCA Arena in Lexington, North Carolina on a recent Saturday card there. Hanson won the first fall with a neck-breaker. Lewis came back strong and fast to take the second fall with a figure four.

A powerful drop-kick to the chest of Alex Jacobs by Rip Hawk won the third fall and the match for the Hanson-Hawk duo in eight minutes.

Also in Lexington, Ray Villmer used his famous atomic drop to down The Viking in the semi-final. Eduardo Castilla, a swifty-rising mat whiz with plenty of know-how, turned back veteran Jack Vansky, using a series of flying marks to soften his foe for a clean-cut win.

Dale Lewis, a very determined young mat ace, closed up another victory by defeating a top villain, Rip Hawk. This was a battle in which skill triumphed over strength. Hawk, along with his partner, Swede Hanson, is reportedly headed for Florida rings.

Popular Mike Clancy, a long-time favorite in the Carolinas, has left for Tennessee, and is now appearing up and around Nashville, where he and Frankie Cain have been going great-guns as tag team partners. If they have the ability to go with their love for the sport and get the right breaks, the Clancy and Cain's bout here and there will be his best. In winning this close one from the fearsome oriental claw-hold artist, he surprised many as "The Scuffling Lion" Clancy should make a great team, and here's wishing them the best of luck.

Others wrestling in Nashville are Mario Milano, Danny Gory, Mexico's Gory, Mexico's Alex Per, and Hawaiian Oni Wiki, who wrestled in Charlotte in 1956 under the name of Wally Lam. Also, there are The Mysterious Medics, Rip and Chuck Collins, known as "The Scuffling Lion" Clancy, a 225-pound newcomer known as The Black Terror, and Joacquin Corea. Corea formerly wrestled as El Olympic.

Hiro Matsuda, former junior Heavyweight Wrestling Champion, recently got married in Tampa, Florida, to pretty Judy Campbell.

Donna and Alex, the Heisterly Army, Lou Thesz and the tag team of Hanson and Hawk, and the newly-retained his World Title by defeating capable Danny Miller, who did well in the college ranks wrestling for Ohio State.

Donna and Alex, who went out with Sam Steamboat in Orlando, Florida, Sam gave Lou the best match he has had this year. Lou won the first fall with a body press, while Steamboat rallied in the second to take the fall with a body press. The body press. The final fall went to Thesz, who downed Steamboat with a back drop and body press.

Bill and Kurt Von Stroheim won a hectic victory by beating the combo of Chief Crazy Horse and Danny Miller.

Claiming the World Tag Team Championship is the team of Hiro Matsuda and Duke Keomuka. Still going strong in Florida rings is the Great Malenko.

ATLANTA WRESTLING NEWS

By Linda Pounders

Over 14,000 fans jammed Ponce De Leon ball park to see a grudge battle between Buddy Fuller and Mario Galento, the Georgia heavyweight champion.

Ricky Marciano, former heavyweight boxing champion of the world, was called in by promoter Paul Lopez to referee the match. The match was 2 out of 3 falls, no time limit, and the Georgia title was at stake. Galento won the first fall in about nine minutes. Fuller, however, had to take the 2nd fall in eleven minutes. Galento went wild in the third fall and refused to break illegal holds when Marciano warned him. After several minutes, several times, Fuller, who had Galento with his famous right uppercut, Fuller immediately jumped on Galento and pinned him to take the third fall, just as promoter Jones handed Fuller the Georgia heavyweight championship belt and trophy. Galento came back to life and decided he still wanted to fight. As far as Sunday night, he consented the match, but he clobbered Galento with his trophy. The police were finally called in to try and end the wild battle that kept the fans from their front-row seats.

In other matches, Ray Gunkel and Lester Welch defeated the Von Brauner Bros., the Corsica Bros. won over Greg Peterson and Frankie Cain. Chief Little Eagle, Tony Borne, and Chief Little Eagle and Bob Dalton defeated Jerry Miller and Jesse James, and Barbara Galento won over Millie Zec in a ladies match.

Over 10,000 fans returned to Ponce De Leon ball park to see a return battle between Buddy Fuller, the new Georgia heavyweight champion, and Mario Galento. It was a 10-round match with each wrestler wearing 6-oz. gloves. The special referees were Rocky Marciano and Al Spider. Galento, when Galento announced that he would serve as referee, Fuller offered to pay one half of Marciano's expenses if he would return and also serve as referee for the bout. Fuller refused. Galento down five times in the first round. With the help of his brother, Spider Galento, Mario came out on top in the 2nd round, Marciano stopped the fight in the 3rd round when Galento got completely out of hand and declared Fuller the winner.

In other matches on this card, Greg Peterson defeated Chief Little Eagle, Tony Borne over George "Baby Blimp" Harris, Tony Borne stopped Jesse James, Ray Gunkel and Lester Welch won over the Von Brauner Bros., and Chief Little Eagle and Scarpy defeated the Corsica Bros. to capture the Southern tag team title.

In a main event tag team match, Mario and "Spider" Galento won the Georgia title from Joe Scarpa and Chief Little Eagle. Tony Borne won over Tony Ballagreen in the semi-final. In a tag team match, the Corsica Bros. wrestled to a draw with the Scotts in the main event. Jesse James downed Bob Dalton, and Greg Peterson won over George Harris by disqualification.

The rough Galento Bros. Mario and Spider, retained their Southern tag team championship by defeating Buddy Fuller and Chief Little Eagle. Fuller and Little Eagle were both knocked out in the third fall and could not continue. Big Bob Orton, who was making his first appearance in Atlanta, defeated Lester Welch in the semi-final. In single matches, Bob Ray Hines stopped Harry Smith, and George Harris won over Bob Dalton by disqualification. A tag team match saw the Corsica Bros. defeat Greg Peterson and Tony Ballagreen.

• • • END

WRESTLING IN SCOTLAND

By H. Milburn

Britain's most controversial tag team, Alex Gibson and John Foley, "The Black Diamonds", featured one of the most hectic and exciting tag matches seen for quite some time at the Eldorado, Leith.

Their opponents, popular Bradford wrestler Eric Sands and his partner Cornish wrestler Roy St. Clair, were the first to get into the ring. Roy St. Clair, the first bell. The Diamonds, who incidentally have just returned from a successful trip to Paris, dominated early and after some stormy exchanges between the two teams.

Sands and St. Clair fought back well and gave the Diamonds some of their own medicine. After further exchanges, the Diamonds themselves took their turn. Then, as so often happens in tag matches, all four wrestlers insisted on being in the ring together. During this period referee Jack Harris counted a fall for Sands and a fall against St. Clair (at exactly the same time) which brought the contest to an abrupt end; the decision a draw.

On the same bill was Manchester star Jim Hussey who ignored the rule book completely in his bout against the colorful Samoan wrestler, Peter Maivia. The foreigner stood up well to the Manchester man's combative and brawling tactics but referee Harris decided he'd taken enough punishment after five rounds, and lost no time in sending Hussey up the stairs.

• • • END

WRESTLING

CANADIAN NEWS

By John E. Cheesman

Vancouver—The Fabulous Kangaroos, Al Costello and Roy Heffernan, defeated the team of Don Leo Jonathan and Whipper Billy Watson to win the Canadian Open Tag Team championship which they had lost earlier in Winnipeg.

► **WINNIEPEG** Klondike Bill got his long awaited revenge on the "Big Boy" and "Big Boy" was defeated. Don Leo Jonathan and Whipper Billy Watson were defeated by Al Costello and Roy Heffernan in a tag team match. Klondike Bill of the top rope and Jonathan, opened on his opponent to win the third and final fall. Before this, Klondike had taken the opening fall with a series of body slams and a pin and Jonathan had taken the second in the same manner.

Whipper Billy Watson came out a winner in his bout with Nikita Kalmikoff. The Russian won the first fall as he punished Watson for ten minutes with countless brutal blows to the body and face. Watson took the second fall, 12:05 when he sentenced up Kalmikoff with several body slams before applying the pin. Nearly eight minutes later, the Whip used one of his specialty holds, the shoulder flip, to prepare Nikita for the bout ending count.

The Fabulous Kangaroos picked up another win when they defeated Jim Hady and Karl Von Erich at 22:30 after Hady submitted to a cradle hold. Red Bastien won over Eric Freulich in the opening bout. In other action Nikita Kalmikoff was an easy winner over Cobra Singh. Red Bastien defeated Stan Stasiak. Jim Hady topped Eric Freulich. The Kangaroos defeated Roy McClarity & Freulich. Red Bastien pinned Freddy Baron. Jim Hady drew with Stan Stasiak. Red Bastien won on disqualification. Nikita Kalmikoff. Klondike Bill took only 1:30 to dispose of Cobra Singh. The Kangaroos defeated Eric Freulich & Freddy Baron. Johnny Kostas and Stan Stasiak battled to a draw. Al Costello pinned Johnny Kostas. Klondike Bill squashed Eric Freulich. Red Bastien stopped Bud Reitel. Stan Stasiak won over Freddy Baron. Jim Hady drew with Nikita Kalmikoff.

► **TORONTO**—Bruno Sammartino, the present W.W.F. champion, was declared a winner at \$3000. Carl Von Erich when he was counted out of the match after colliding with Bruno in the center of the ring. Johnny Valentine defeated Johnny Kane with brass knuckles at 13:45. The Beat from Sicily and Lew McKenzie fought to a 20 minute draw. The lad from Scotland, Andy Robin, defeated Alexander the Great. Johnny two-way won an up and down pin over Mike. Mike Michele Baron defeated Johnny Carr. Christie Wheeler was awarded the decision over Joe Christie when Christie was counted out of the ring.

► **NOTES** . . . One of Toronto's cards was called because of several fans who were unable to get into the city . . . Whipper Billy Watson and Gene Kiniski are scheduled to meet for the British Empire championship in Toronto and the result will be published in my next column . . . Winnipeg referee, Sander Kovacs is very unpopular with the villains. He has a habit of giving the good guys. One of his tricks is goading the villain into striking him and then disqualifying the unlucky performer . . . Curtis Iaukea is expected in Western Canada in the near future. The Fabulous Kangaroos were awarded the N.W.A. plaque for being the top carding battlers in 1985 . . . The Kangaroos will defend their title against the down and out team against Watson & Jonathan in Winnipeg . . . This writer can be contacted at R.C.A.F. Station Gimli, Manitoba.

► **VANCOUVER**—A feature bout saw the flashy duo of Red Bastien and Jim Hady defeat Nikita Kalmikoff and Klondike Billy stopped Kalmikoff with an abdominal stretch. Red Bastien hit the cradle on Bill. In a rematch Kalmikoff was once again the victim of Hady. A rolling tie-up did the trick. Kalmikoff and Jonathan were downed at the hands of Don Leo Jonathan and Hady. Jonathan stopped Kalmikoff with a body press for the win. It took Kangaroo Al Costello only four minutes to defeat John Paul. Bastien won the second fall. He wrestled the match with a body press after almost 20 minutes senseless.

Referee Roy Heffernan defeated Johnny Kostas with a pile-driver after Kostas missed with a drop kick and flew into the ropes. Eric Freulich defeated Bud Reitel in less than a minute with a shoulder stand.

Gentleman Jim Hady won a clean scientific bout over Johnny Kostas. Don Leo Jonathan triumphed Klondike Bill with a victory over the airplane spin and a body press. Red Bastien triumphed over Bud Reitel with a reverse step over toe hold.

Freddy Baron attempted to rise in the rankings when he took on Roy Heffernan, but the Kangaroo won with a shoulder block and pin. Eric Freulich and Johnny Kostas fought to a 10 minute draw. Red Bastien won a nine man Battle Royal to supplement the win he managed in Edmonton. The participants left in the following way. All eight com-

bined to toss Don Leo Jonathan; Johnny Kostas put Freddy Baron over the ropes; Red Bastien lipped Nikita Kalmikoff; Kangaroos combined to throw Eric Freulich; Bastien & Hady got rid of Johnny Kostas; Costello & Hady lipped over at the same time. Bastien tossed Roy Heffernan to win the \$800.

The Georgia Assassin, Al Nelson arrived in the area and immediately demolished veteran Sander Kovacs with a karate chop and a knee drop. Don Leo Jonathan disposed of Johnny Kostas in 1 minute with a shoulder stand. Newcomer Tony Parisi, made a successful debut with a win over Nikita Kalmikoff. A drop kick was the deciding factor.

Al Nelson went to a no contest decision with Eric Freulich. He went after Freulich before the bell rang knocking him unconscious and injuring the likable youngster. Nelson could not be disqualified, because the bout had never officially started. Al Nelson and the Georgia Assassin went to a 25 minute draw. Parisi scored first, going over Costello with two drop kicks and a shoulder stand. Costello claimed a fast count. The Kangaroos replied in short order with a reverse shoulder stand.

Al Nelson defeated Johnny Kostas with three knee drops to the throat of his unconscious victim. Tony Parisi defeated Eric Freulich by taking the only fall in twenty minutes of action. A backbridge-shoulder stand was the winning hold.

► **WINNIEPEG**—The Fabulous Kangaroos made two successful defenses of the International Tag Team Championship. The pair won this title in France



The Fabulous Kangaroos, Roy Heffernan (left) and Al Costello

eight years ago in a tournament which featured 108 teams from 17 different countries. Since winning the coveted championship they have successfully defended it in 34 different countries. Each belt contains a 48 inch strap and a metal chain.

In the first bout they fought to a sixty minute draw with Bastien and Hady. The Kangaroos won the first fall but Bastien came back with a sleeper hold on Costello to put the teams at even terms. Heffernan rushed to the dressing room and returned with smelling salts which he used to revive his partner. Costello hung on to the end and a draw was declared.

The rematch was scheduled for 90 minutes but the Kangaroos required only 48 minutes to record another triumph. Heffernan grabbed the first fall for the champions, pinning Hady after the latter was subjected to severe punishment in the Kangaroos' hands. Heffernan pinned Hady with a shoulder stand and a pin. Fifteen minutes later Hady forced Costello to submit to an abdominal stretch. In the final fall the Kangaroos held Hady in their corner where they pro-seceded to call him up before the pin administered by Heffernan.

Don Leo Jonathan took two wins over Klondike Bill. Both had unsatisfactory endings. In the first match Jonathan was awarded the victory when a fan attacked Bill and slashed him over the eye rendering him helpless. Just previous to this Bill had injured the neck of Jonathan. Jonathan proved the shock of the month when he protested his victory to the Athletic Commission, claiming that Bill should have been awarded the match due to outside interference.

The rematch saw Bill take the first fall with a front splash after flipping Jonathan onto the turnbuckle. Jonathan evened things up in the twenty-five minute mark with a back flip and pin. The Yukoner was disqualified by referee Pete Myrko for knocking out Jonathan on the corner post.

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Popular Johnny Kostas, claimant to the Greek title fought to a draw with Russian ruffian, Nikita Kalmikoff. Eric Freulich defeated Sander Kovacs in a clean display of skill.

Al Nelson made his Winnipeg debut a successful one by defeating Eric Freulich. The Georgia Assassin requires 15 minutes to demolish a foe. Newcomer Tony Parisi was also successful, stopping Nikita with a pair of drop kicks at the 12 minute mark.

► **Canadian Ratings**—based only on performances in Canada: 1. Don Leo Jonathan U.S.A.; 2. Gene Kiniski Canada; 3. Johnny Valentine U.S.A.; 4. Wilder Van Erich—Germany; Bruno Sammartino—Italy; 6. Red Bastien—U.S.A.; 7. Whipper Watson Canada; 8. Johnny Powers—Canada; 9. Jim Hady U.S.A.; 10. Professor Hiro Japan; 11. Al Nelson U.S.A.; 12. Joe DiPaolo—Italy; 13. Klondike Bill—Canada; 14. Al Thomas—U.S.A.; 15. Roy Heffernan Australia; 16. John Tolo—Canada; 17. Al Costello—U.S.A.; 18. Chris Tolos—Canada; 19. Sweet Daddy Siki—U.S.A.; 20. Tony Parisi—Italy.

Gentleman Jim Hady has been defending his Arm Wrestling Championship against all comers in Western Canada.

Hady took a disputed win over Roy Heffernan, defeated Nikita Kalmikoff, defeated Freddy Baron, defeated Arthur Dault defeated Johnny Kostas, defeated Brad Keene (commentator).

Nikita Kalmikoff presented a portrait of Brad Keene to the special announcer. Kalmikoff also displayed some other works of his, which included 4 scenes of bullfights and a Russian landscape painted from memory. The bullfight scenes were copied from Spanish and Russian artists which he acquired during trips to those countries.

Fans are wondering when Lou Thesz is going to appear in the main event. The World Champion Don Leo Jonathan and Gene Kiniski have each held Thesz to a pair of draws. Jonathan in Vancouver and Winnipeg. Kiniski in Vancouver and Toronto. Professor Hiro and the DiPaolo have also held the champ to a draw. Whipper Watson is also campaigning for a shot at the title.

OMAHA MAT NEWS

By Jaye L. Huey

Toni Rose and Betty Boucher collided in a women's mat match that saw Toni dispose of Betty with a series of knee drops, body slams and a body press. The elapsed time was 7:20.

The Rose Boucher event was held at Civic Auditorium where many other matches were staged by promoter Joe Dusek.

In a midet girls encounter Darling Dagmer defeated Diamond Lil in 5:30 with a crotch hold, a backbreaker and a body press. A special event brought together George Drake and Don Jardino with both boys being all even at the end of thirty minutes.

Ernie Dusek was third man in the ring in an added special attraction that had Darling Dagmer teamed up with Betty Boucher and Diamond Lil bracketed with the Vachone-Vodak team. Dusek won this best of three falls in 24:58.

Sid Freeman was a bit too strong for Haru Sasaki winning a best of three falls encounter in 20:43.

The so-called Mad Dog Vachone teaming up with his arch enemy Igor Vodik against Tony Borne and Lew Newman. As you might have already guessed, the Vachone-Vodik duo won it two falls to one.

Mad Dog went against Ken Hollis in a man-to-man skrum. Mad Dog and Hollis had a backbreaker in 8:45. In other action Tack defeated Bud Johnson in 4:03 with a series of Cocco Butts and body slams. Haru Sasaki pinned Bob Brown in 12:00 with judo chops to the throat, and Drake pinned Claude Patterson in 3:06 with an arm strangle hold and body press.

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST WRESTLING

By Dean A. Silverstone

After a short attendance drop-off, due to no visible reason, wrestling in the great Pacific Northwest has once again reached its normal average, and has even gone above what was expected in some cities.

Promoter and matchmaker Harry Elliott, said that attendance was up 16% over last year in Seattle, 14% up in Tacoma, 13% up in Wenatchee, Washington, and exactly the same or up in all the rest of his cities, with an exception of Spokane, where attendance is down.

Spokane has a population of 200,000, and on their last card they drew less than 400 people. In comparison, Lapwai, Idaho, a town of less than 2,000 people, drew over 800 fans on their last event.

Seattle, Wenatchee, Portland, and Tacoma, still lead in PNW attendance figures for the first half of 1965.

This past month's results:

► **SEATTLE:** Pepper Martin over Indio Joe, Alberto Torres beat Ricki Hunter, Ivan Kamoroff and Kazimiro drew, Dean Hiquich drew with El Shereel. Stan Polaski whipped Haru Sasaki. Then Polaski came back to win the Battle Royal.

► **TACOMA:** Pepper Martin was held to a draw by Stan Polaski, El Shereel edged Yvonne Robbere. Stan Stack drew Ricki Hunter, Dano McDonald and Roy McClarity drew; Juan Sebastian and Freddy Baron grappled to a stalemate.

► **SEATTLE:** Pepper Martin beat Stan Polaski, Roy McClarity drew Dano McDonald, Dean Hiquich drew with Juan Sebastian, El Shereel downed Ricki Hunter, and Haru Sasaki was disqualified in his match against Kazimiro.

► **CASHMERE-WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON:** Stan Polaski and El Shereel beat Dean Hiquich and Kazimiro, Stan Stack over Tori Torres, and Pepper Martin topped Juan Sebastian.

► **SEATTLE:** Stan Polaski won via disqualification from Haru Sasaki, Roy McClarity drew with Buddy Marino, Ricki Hunter was held to a draw with Indio Joe, Pepper Martin bested Juan Sebastian, and El Shereel was disqualified by Referee Paga Paga in his bout against Alberto Tori Torres.

► **SPokane:** Jan Paul and Ricki Hunter drew after 47 minutes of wrestling, El Shereel defeated Tori Torres, and Kazimiro beat Haru Sasaki via disqualification.

► **SEATTLE:** Ivan Kamoroff and Soldat Garky bested Stan Polaski and Indio Joe, Kazimiro drew Alberto Torres, Haru Sasaki defeated Roy McClarity, Pepper Martin beat Buddy Marino via default.

► **MAPLE VALLEY:** El Shereel won a Battle Royal. Also, Pepper Martin defeated Haru Sasaki, Tori Torres drew with Kazimiro, and El Shereel whipped Ricki Hunter.

► **SEATTLE:** Tori Torres was awarded a disqualification win from Stan Stack, Pepper Martin defeated Freddy Baron, Ricki Hunter and Juan Sebastian drew, Dano McDonald drew with Roy McClarity, Stan Polaski downed Yvonne Robbere.

► **FIFTH POL OF THE MAT:** Destroyer has teamed with Billy Red Lyons. Ex-wrestler Gentle John Kilonis died recently, in Manchester, New Hampshire. He was 78. At one time he held the middle-weight championship. Bobby Shane now in Tulsa, won his first regional title. Tim Holt is a Seattle newcomer. ► Maurice Vashon and Tony Borne have become friends to form a great team combo. Other top tag teams are El Shereel and Stan Polaski, Shag Thomas and Pepper Martin, and Shag Thomas and Luther Lindsay (the latter winning Ring Wrestling's Tag Team of the Year award).

MATSIDE BOSTON

By Mike Marley

THE BOSTON WRESTLING SCENE IS ALIVE ONCE AGAIN! All Star Wrestling has returned to Boston under the able auspices of theatrical agent Abe Ford. After 3 years Bud ringeriders are again enjoying the skill and class of greats like Bruno Sammartino, Gorilla Monsoon, Haystack Calhoun, Chief Wahoo, and Arnie Skandland. Promoter Ford, who is challenging Tony Santos for mat supremacy here, plans on presenting star-studded cards of TV stalwarts at Boston Garden twice monthly.

Speaking of TV, wrestling is shown on Channels 38 (UHF) and 12 (VHF).

► NOW THAT RITA CORTEZ IS GONE FROM NEW ENGLAND ALMA MILLS IS RECOGNIZED AS THE CHAMP OF THE FEMALE RANKS! Mills, who cuts men's hair by day and wrestles by night, could really write a fantastic tale about her amazing comeback. Struck down by a trick knee a few seasons back, Alma worked hard and through the wonders of physical therapy rejoined the Santos team. Employing all her ring savvy, Mills worked her way back to the crown. ► Valerius, who cut men's hair by day and wrestles by night, could really write a fantastic tale about her amazing comeback. Struck down by a trick knee a few seasons back, Alma worked hard and through the wonders of physical therapy rejoined the Santos team. Employing all her ring savvy, Mills worked her way back to the crown.

► **NEW YORK:** The team of Tony Santos and matchmaker Jack Pfeiffer, back in Beantown

working with promoter Santos. . . . How Quincy resigned Bull Montana, originally of Detroit, resident. His monicker has been missing from Arena mat programs lately. As far as card quality goes, Argentina Apollo is nearly as adept at it as was the late and great Leaping Larry Chene.

► **THE FABULOUS TENNESSEE HILIBILLIES,** Big Luke and Little Abner, have been rewriting the record book here as they consistently wallop opponents. They have beaten the team of Gorgeous George and Gorgeous Helen, who have been at it for 5 different shades in the last year. . . . Here is a suggestion for a new tag combo: tough rookie Tony Zeila and Bill Gey on the team.

► **HOB0 BRAZIL,** who formerly wrestled in Ohio as the Black Orchid, has silver-steeked hair once again. FABULOUS TENNESSEE HILIBILLIES, Big Luke and Little Abner, have been rewriting the record book here as they consistently wallop opponents. They have beaten the team of Gorgeous George and Gorgeous Helen, who have been at it for 5 different shades in the last year. . . . Here is a suggestion for a new tag combo: tough rookie Tony Zeila and Bill Gey on the team.

► **HE'S NOT COLORFUL, HE'S NOT A SHOWMAN, BUT NEW YORKER ARNOLD SKAALAND IS REALLY A WRESTLER'S WRESTLER.** He knows the sport from A to Z. The mat game could use many more scientific warriors like Arnie. . . . Pretty Pat Sherry wants a match with Mills for the title. If Sherry keeps on racking up victories, she'll get one.

► **Buddy Lee,** part-time wrestler and full-time promoter, is gone from this area. . . . Santos promotions have moved from the hot Arena to the Annex, which is our cartoon.

► **HOUSTON ANTWINE,** star defensive tackle of the Boston Patriots, hopes to follow either gridiron great Danny Babin or the great Earl "Red" Wahl (Wahoo, etc.) into wrestling. Houston thinks it would be wiser to crash grappling after the '65 football season is over. . . . Lou Thesz, the fabulous six-time NWA titleholder, is here to get Frankie Ricca a shot at his crown.

► **HANS SCHMIDT ITCHING TO GET BACK HERE TO GET AT ARNOLD SKAALAND,** according to his sources. . . . Well, with both Ford and Santos forcing him it looks like a easy time for grunt 'n' groin action.

► **ARENA:** The Hilibillies—Little Abner and his brother Big Luke beat the duo of Gorgeous George and Jan Valentine. Flash Thomas sped by Billy Graham, Golden Boy Dupree, and Magnificent Chauvier. Jesse James won over Bruno Sammartino. . . . The team of Lucy Dupree and Pat Sherry beat Syd Torres and Alma Mills. . . .

► **GARDEN:** Arnie Skandland, Earl "Red" Wahl, and Don McClarity, 261, Ireland, in a rather dull bout; Chief Wahoo, 270, Colorado, and Haystack Calhoun, 60, Arkansas, drew; The team of Tori Torres, 275, Illinois and Dr. Jerry Graham, 233, Arizona, Sky Low Low (MIDGETS), 97, Montreal, and Fuzzy Cloud, 98, Hollywood, won the team of Jamaica Kid, 96, Jamaica, and Pancho Lopez, 94, Mexico; Argentina Apollo, 181, Argentina, com- pletely bottled Tony Newberry, 225, Canada, while his acrobatics and won over the team of Bruno Sammartino, 265, Italy, retained his WWWF world title by beating Manchurian ore Gorilla Monsoon, 385. Sammartino, even though he speared over 120 pounds to his foe, had a relatively easy go of it as he finished Gorilla off with less than ten; the villain out of the squared circle. Bruno was de- clared winner and still champion when the dawn Gorilla was unable to continue. . . .

RINGSIDE—HAWAII By Wayne H. Link

In a wrestling extravaganza staged at Honolulu's International Center, Lou Thesz retained his heavy-weight title with a win over Curtiss. Thesz and Hagerty each Thesz had gained a fall, and Hagerty was disqualified in the third fall for applying his claw hold outside the ring.

In the semifinal match, Curtis Toki also gained a victory over The Crusher on a disqualification when the latter tossed the "Hawaiian Bull" over the top rope.

Luther Lindsey took his match over Fuji Fujiwara by using a body splash and gaining the pin. In the tag team feature match, Alberto and Enrique Torres won over the team of Shoulders Newman and Roy "Ripper" Collins.

In the preliminary matches, Lord Biceps pinned the Bandit and Nip Bochwinkel defeated Cito. A capacity crowd jammed the Civic Auditorium to see the famous Victor the Great, the wrestling bear, take on the challenge of Hard Billed Hagerty. The 8 ft. 3 in. 400 lb. bear won by a 10-0 apply its full weight on Hagerty for the three count and the win. The bears reward was two bottles of orange soda.

In the tag team event, Enrique and Alberto Torres won 2 of 3 falls from Curtis Toukeu and Fuji Fujiwara. In winning this match, The Torres brothers were awarded the Hawaiian tag team championship.

In the special event, Luther Lindsey took two straight falls over newcomer The Crusher. He took the first fall on a disqualification and the second with a series of dropkicks.

Returning from his recent tour in Japan, Fred Blasse used a series of neck breakers to subdue Dean Hiquich.

In the opening match, newcomer Smiling Jack Pesek won on a disqualification over Shoulders Newman in a wild and action-packed event.

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Ga Wrestlers OK In England

BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND:—Women have achieved a breakthrough in English wrestling. The gals now are seen on some local cards and it is believed that importation of several top female grapplers from the United States is not far off. The success of the invaders would be assured.

Birmingham city officials attended a women's wrestling match in their civic capacities recently and gave the gals a clean bill of health. They said they had no objection to permitting them to appear in the city's civic halls.

Local mat fans are eager to see the prettiest of the American gals, among them Judy Grable, Penny Banner, and Rita Cortez.

Here is how the Birmingham Mail treated the story about the civic okeh on the female grappling:

Birmingham Corporation is not expected to frown upon wrestling contests for women in the city's civic halls.

After seeing bouts between women wrestlers at Bingley Hall, Councillor L. Lovesey, Chairman of the City Council's Estate Committee, said he had seen nothing



JUDY GRABLE

to make him feel he should campaign for a ban.

the sixth session. However, victory eluded Steadman, for at the next session Hunter slammed Steadman hard to the canvas to take the third and deciding fall. Thus "Rebel" Ray Hunter retained his British Empire championship.

Hunter stated he aims to tour America and Canada in November.

"Hard Boiled" Steve Hagerty is a wrestler to note. Since his arrival from Canada the aggressive Hagerty's style has improved by leaps and bounds. Despite losing his European lightweight title Zoltan Bosack is still rated by many as the finest lightweight in Europe. It is hoped that promoters can overcome their differences and match Bosack with world champion George Kidd.

THE WRESTLING BEAT By Tom Burke

Bruno Sammartino defeated Cowboy Billy Watts for the fourth time in a row at the Garden. A long time favorite also appeared on the card by the name of Chief Big Heart. The fans can't wait to see the Chief and Dr. Jerry Graham go back to their old wrestling feud. Waldo Von Erich and Dr. Bill Miller will no doubt be the next United States tag team champs.

► Promoter Tony Santos of New England has brought in Wild Bull Curry for the fans. Another star working for Santos is the new Gorgeous George Allen. Allen had been the protégé of the late Gorgeous George Wagner. Jackie Fargo is recognized as world champ. Frank Scropa is still the United States king. The Wrecker who has been defeating all opposition in Texas and most recently in Florida is none other than Frank Shields of Boston. Fred Curry Jr. has left New England and is currently wrestling Best Ruby in Detroit.

► Since the start of 1965 the world of pro wrestling lost 3 of its members. They are: Yukon Eric, who committed suicide, veteran Johnny Klonis, former middleweight world champion who died on March 22 at age 76, and on April 19th, Chief Saunooke, a star back in the 40's, also passed on.

► Bob Orton has teamed up with Bill Drummond down Florida way. Speaking of Bob, his son, Bob Jr., recently won the Florida Amateur wrestling title. Bob Jr. is 14. Brute Bernard, who was injured in an auto accident is back in action with Skull Murphy. Silva Torres, recently hurt in an auto accident, is back with us. The Sheik is traveling back and forth from NWA territory to WWWF for his bouts. Pat Patterson has dyed his hair blond and has teamed up with Roy Shivers.

• • • END

"I saw nothing particularly offensive," he said. "Wrestling is not my cup of tea as a sport, but I went there with an open mind."

Coun. Lovesey, accompanied by the City Estates Officer, Mr. R. F. H. Ross, had "gone to see for ourselves" because the Committee expects to receive an application for women's wrestling to be held at Digbeth Civic Hall.

"We went so that we would know what we were talking about, not to censor it," he said.

"I suppose it is a bit of fun for people who like that sort of thing. The referee is the one who has my sympathy."

"I believe in equality of the sexes to this extent. If wrestling is all right for males, why not for females?"

"The dress seemed quite reasonable; it was not at all immodest."

Coun. Lovesey added, however, that the wrestling ring was the last place one expected to find girls.

"I still think of the old rhyme 'Sugar and spice and all things nice . . .'" he said.

"I think I would prefer to see them dancing or something like that."

CINCINNATI MATLINE By Billy Lee Hensley

Wrestling returned to Hot's Parkway Arena after an absence of five years.

In the opening event of the evening, Gary Hart took the measure of Guy Mitchell in a one fall match.

In a ladies bout veteran Cora Combs defeated lovely newcomer Kathy O'Brien in one fall. O'Brien was disqualified for choking Combs while outside the ring.

Sensational Fred Curry gave Kelly, the Greatest, a lesson in wrestling before pinning him with a dropkick and a flying body press. This writer expects a bright and shining future for young Curry who has all the equipment it takes to be a success.

The semi final event was a one-fall match featuring Duke Hoffman and Dennis Hall. This was a rough match from the opening bell, with young Hall giving as much as he took, until Hoffman caught him with sleeper hold as he came off the ropes. In the main event, a two out of three fall match, The Sheik met Magnificent Maurice. The Sheik attacked Maurice before the opening bell had rung and continued to gouge him with a ball point pen which the referee Bill Barrett appeared not to see. Finally, the Sheik took the first fall with his Camel Clutch. Maurice turned the tables and won the second fall with a body press. Then the Sheik went back to his gouging and biting tactics, with the referee always looking away at the right time. The Sheik won the third and final fall with his Camel Clutch.

EASTERN WRESTLING By Daniel Beirne

After Cowboy Bill Watts lost three times to World Wide Federation champion Bruno Sammartino he finally came to his senses and quit trying. After losing his chances he teamed up with Gorilla Manson and won the tag team title from Waldo Von Erich and Gene Kiniski, but he's temporarily out of the picture for the World Wide Wrestling Federation.

Now Dr. Jerry Miller has invaded the East and is looking for a few shots at Sammartino. He returned with his manager Bobby Davis. Miller did defeat Bruno on television with the help of manager Bobby Davis. Dr. Jerry Graham is planning to reunite with his brother Luke. At present Luke is teaming up with Fred Blassie in California.

Chief Big Heart has returned. He is teaming up with Chief White Owl and Chief Wahoo McDaniel.

THE LONDON MAT SCENE By P. Alexander

Former World champion Edouard Carpentier has arrived in Britain for a limited number of matches. In his first contest at London's Mecca of Wrestling, The Royal Albert Hall, the aristocratic Carpentier was matched with former British champion Geoff Portz. The bout went the full distance, with each man securing a fall. The contest was therefore declared a draw. In the main support junior European champ Billy Howes defeated experienced roughneck Roger Delaporte of Paris, France.

► During his tour of Britain Robert Duranton has been featured in tag bouts. Duranton's partner is his valet Firmin. Independent promoter Paul Lincoln has recently introduced to London fans a sensational new tag team, The White Angels who appear clad in white from head to foot. The mystery pair are two well known wrestlers who have been training together for nine months to perfect their individual styles into a first class tag team.

The Angels announce that they want the fans to forget their individual identities and judge them solely on their ability as a tag team. In their initial match at the Granada Brixton they set a hard task for their opponents for the occasion were the giant Campbell Brothers, whose combined weight is 518 pounds. However, the Angels proved themselves equal to the demanding task, for after an hour of non-stop action they gallantly managed to bring the mass of Campbell to a draw.

► Rugged bruiser, Don Steadman has been in the news again. A few weeks ago the controversial Steadman beat British Empire champion "Rebel" Ray Hunter in the final of a knock out tournament, by a fall, which many fans alleged to be a foul. At both men's request promoter Paul Lincoln staged a "draw" bout. However, the referee decided the contest using various straight arm levers and weakening back breakers to good advantage.

After his victory Steadman grabbed the M.C.'s microphone and publicly announced he wanted a title fight with Hunter.

The British Wrestling Federation agreed with Steadman's request and Steadman and champion Ray Hunter were matched for a title fight. From the onset Steadman used doubtful tactics and the bout virtually degenerated into a brawl.

Hunter took the first spoils with a brilliantly executed fall. Steadman retaliated by using more "rough stuff." At one stage of the contest Steadman threw Hunter so hard into the corner post that the turnbuckle snapped.

Steadman gained the equalizing submission in

AMATEURS CAN REALLY BE DEADLY!

(Continued from page 24)

the younger Christy, rocking him into the turnbuckle.

Punches ripped into Bobby's stomach, doubling him over in pain. Twisting Bobby's leg around the bottom strand, he yanked sharply upward on the foot, almost hard enough to snap the ankle. The ref counted, but Siki stood his ground, yanking even harder on the trapped limb and easing the illegal grip only when threatened with disqualification.

Time and again, he reverted to the hold, almost paralyzing Bobby's leg. At long last, Christy struggled out of the corner to tag his brother. Jerry went on a rampage, fists and feet flying. He belted Siki and Noble to the canvas a dozen times, jolted them with kneelifts, dropkicked them out of the ring, then flipped them back in again.

But the trap was set. Siki and Noble, brutally double-teaming Jerry, forced him into the fatal corner. Leering savagely, Siki hooked Jerry's leg in the lower rope, then began kicking the trapped limb with his heavy boots. Then he strained upward on the foot. Jerry's expression was one of agony. Wildly, he struggled to free himself.

Then came the coup de grace. Siki unleashed his 'secret weapon', the hold he had practiced with Noble in deepest secrecy. Lashing Jerry to mid-canvas, Sweet Daddy interlocked his left leg with Christy's left, then hurled himself backward onto the mat. Jerry screamed in pain, clutched at the canvas as tendons tore in his knee. Time after time, Siki crashed backward into the mat, sending spasms of pain through the damaged limb. Bobby Christy paced the ring apron like a caged beast, powerless to aid his brother.

Fearing the terrible pressure could snap Jerry's leg as if it were a match stick, ref Joe Lesperance intervened. He dragged the raging Siki from his victim, kept him at bay long enough for other grapplers to rush forward and snare Jerry out of harm's way. The official raised Siki's and Noble's arms in victory.

Bobby's temper snapped when he saw the winning duo parading triumphantly around. It was more than he could take. He tore into both of them, downed them with dropkicks, bruised them with rock-hard fists, stomped them as they lay on the mat. Bobby was a man gone wild.

Siki and Noble quickly decided discretion was the better part of valor. They fled the ring, limped down the long aisle to the dressing room while other matmen calmed Bobby down, dissuading him from carrying the battle any further.

Sweet Daddy and the Duke had won as they'd predicted. But they were far too busy right then, licking their wounds, to brag about the conquest. Almost an hour later, they hit the road.

After putting many miles between themselves and the Christys, new confidence was restored to the Negro team. Gradually, their brashness returned.

"A pushover," exulted Siki, a sneer back on his face. "The leglock got 'em, just like Sweet Daddy knew it would. So they won a fall—one fall! Luck, that's all it was!"

"Yeah, man!" chimed in Duke, a grin on his blond-bearded face.

"Hey, Duke! Next time we'll get those guys two straight falls—what do you say, man?" Siki smacked a hammy fist on his palm. "Yeah, man, we'll get 'em real good!"

But they weren't calling the Christy Brothers 'amateurs' any more.

AGE-OLD BOXER VS. WRESTLER CONTROVERSY HAS NOT YET BEEN DEFINITELY DECIDED

(Continued from page 27)

and became one of the world's best.

One of the top grappling attractions of his era, powerful Stanley Stasiak was prevailed upon to try his luck as a boxer. Stasiak had the strength and the ruggedness to make good, but he was handicapped by poor eyesight. After a few minor wins, he was matched in Boston with the veteran Homer Smith, who knew enough to keep moving out of Stasiak's range, and Stanley, with his blurred vision, couldn't get close enough to him to do any damage. Result, Stasiak lost the decision, and promptly returned to the wrestling mat.

Ex-fighters who became popular attractions in the grappling profession have been so plentiful it would be a waste of time and space to attempt enumerating them here. None became champions, but as box-office assets, Primo Carnera and Tony Galento were only two of the many who ranked with the best.

A wrestler's attempt to whip an aging Jack Dempsey in boxing stirred up quite a to-do a quarter of a century ago. Dempsey, among his many activities, was picking up paychecks by refereeing boxing and wrestling matches.

In a grappling affair in Atlanta, Cowboy Luttrell didn't like the way Jack operated as referee. One thing led to another, as things have a quaint habit of doing, and the upshot was that Luttrell decided to turn fighter and challenge Dempsey.

Manassa Jack was then 45, and not precisely the superbly conditioned athlete of his championship days. But he accepted the challenge, and the bout, scheduled for ten rounds, was set for July 1, 1940, in Atlanta.

Because of the nation-wide publicity the match had aroused, Nat Fleischer, editor and publisher of *The Ring*, was invited to referee.

It wasn't much of a fight.

Dempsey may not have been his old-

time devastating self, but he was a reasonably facsimile of it. He still knew the right moves, he hadn't lost much of his one-time savage aggressiveness, and he still had plenty of power packed in his fists.

Luttrell didn't have a chance once Dempsey unloosed his heavy artillery. A left hook to the chin started the Cowboy on his way out. In less than two rounds Luttrell was down four times. On the final trip, he went crashing through the ropes, out of the ring and onto the concrete flooring. Knocked unconscious, he was rushed to a hospital where he remained two days.

If there's any moral to all this, it would seem to be that it usually is much safer minding your own business than in going around poking your snout into somebody else's.

JIM BROWNING, WRESTLING MASTER, NOW FORGOTTEN

(Continued from page 37)

back from McLarnin, to Henry Armstrong.

Would such a peristent jinx bedevil the wrestling champion as it had the boxers?

In his match with Londos, Browning, much taller and heavier, outclassed the bronzed Greek throughout most of the contest before a crowd of 20,000. Time and again Londos edged back from the very brink of defeat as Browning punished him with every hold in the book.

Only a New York Commission ruling requiring the automatic breaking of a hold when contestants are thrown, crawl or become entangled with the ropes, saved Londos after the eighth application of the airplane scissors had left him virtually helpless at the hour mark.

Now the hoodoo which made the old Bowl the "Graveyard of Champions" intervened in Londos' behalf, supplying him with a hidden reserve of new energy. Suddenly launching a dynamic attack, he grasped Browning about the waist, hoisted him aloft and sent him crashing to the mat.

Browning appeared injured from the effects of this slam and the strength drained from his body. Seizing his opportunity Londos repeated this operation 8 times, the final time pressing Browning's shoulders to the mat under the weight of his own body to win the championship. In wrestling as well as boxing the jinx had proved invincible.

Browning remained active up to his startling and tragic, early death.

Few wrestlers were better liked by those around them. Pleasant featured and mannered Browning was often referred to as "Gentleman Jim." A small town product, from Vernon, Mo., he smiled readily and was always affable outside the ring. His career, lasting only eight years, was brief as mat histories go. His passing was a shock from which the wrestling world was a long time recovering.

CRACK UP KILLS MICKIE AND SHARPE

THE rigors, strains and dangers of wrestling are not confined to the ring. The quick, frequent travels of the pros present all the dangers of the road after dark and now and then there is a tragedy.

On July 9, Mickey Sharpe, driving Southward after a hard match in Halifax, Nova Scotia, figured in a two car smashup in which he and two other men were killed and many persons were injured.

Mickey was a fine wrestler. He started out under his real name, Malcolm Ruby. Later he shifted to Mickey Blasiac, but when Fred Blasiac became quite prominent, Mickey again made a change to Sharpe.

NEW YORK MAT ACTION By Dorothy Friedman

Cowboy Bill Watts faced Wahoo McDaniel in Commack, New York. Wahoo almost pinned him but the ropes prevented. Watts threw Wahoo into the ropes and won in 14:34.

Dr. Jerry Graham vs. Chief Big Heart. The Chief lost this time in his corner, and it was a surprise sent Jerry lying into the ropes. When both went outside the ring they were both disqualified in 10:34.

The Golden Terror opposed Ted Lewin. The Terror was as mean as could be. He had Ted down on the mat and tried to get his feet to go in the other direction. The Terror was in 11:14. The Golden Terror's real name is Clyde Sleeves. In the Navy he won the U.S. Pacific Fleet Boxing Championship and Marvin and Jack Miller were his opponents. He wears trunks and orange shoes. Almost every time Marvin put a hold on Tony Newberry he went through the ropes. Tony won in 10:21.

Sieve Stanelie vs. Hurricane Soto. In the beginning of the match Sieve punched, kicked and choked his opponent and forced him over into the corner. Soto reacted enough strength to battle his attacker and reverse the tables, and had Sieve begged for mercy in the corner. When Soto put on a full nelson Sieve broke out of it quickly and then flexed his muscles, to the boos of the fans. Soto started pulling his hair but Sieve knew what to do. He threw Soto to the mat and started kicking and twisting his head into the turn buckle. Sieve won in 10:44.

Tony Sepulveda (Mr. Muscles) faced Johnny Rodz. Tony kept knocking him down with punches and Rodz just sat there in amazement. Rodz won with a Boston Crab in 18:30.

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW YORK. Bruno Sammartino won over Bill Watts when the latter was unable to continue in the third fall and was counted out. Apollo and Haystacks Calhoun vs. Dr. Jerry Graham and The Golden Terror. It was ruled no contest when they refused to obey the referee. Miguel Perez defeated Sieve Stanelie. Arnold Skaland beat Tony Newberry. Don McHenry topped the Magnificent Maurice. Chief Big Heart and Chief White Owl won over Waldo Von Erich and Smasher Sloan.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Dr. Jerry Graham won two falls from Tony Newberry in 23:10. Apollo beat John Rodz. Dr. Bill Miller flattened Frank Martinez in 8:30. Don McHenry edged Arnold Skaland in 12:17. Chief White Owl and Wahoo McDaniel defeated Sieve Stanelie and Magnificent Maurice in 17:30.

Dr. Bill Miller defeated heavyweight champion Bruno Sammartino in 7:20. The Golden Terror subdued Arnold Skaland for the first and third fall in 8:30. Smasher Sloan won over Tony Newberry in 9:45. Chief White Owl won two falls from Johnny Rodz. Dr. Bill Miller beat Sieve Stanelie. The Golden Terror defeated Arnold Skaland in 7:30. Don McHenry outlasted Frank Martinez in 9:55. Smasher Sloan beat Bob Boyer. Apollo jumped Tony Newberry in 2:30. Bill Watts crushed Jack Miller in four minutes. Miguel Perez bested John Rodz in two falls in 23:15.

Chief White Owl pinned Sieve Stanelie in 6:05. Arnold Skaland beat Tony Newberry in 14:05. Tony Newberry lost to Chief Big Heart in 8:25. Bill Watts conquered Tomz Merin in 5:06. Smasher Sloan and Waldo Von Erich beat Tony Newberry in 10:25. Arnold Skaland Jack Miller surrendered to Dr.

THE LATE MICKIE SHARPE

Bill Miller in 10:55.

U.S. Tag Team Champions Bill Watts and Gorilla Monsoon put their title on the line against Bruno Sammartino and Haystacks Calhoun in West Hempstead, New York. Watts spent the majority of the time outside the ring. Bruno won the first fall in 9:26. During the second fall a fan threw a cigarette in the ring. Watts picked it up and put it in the corner of Bruno's left eye. Bruno was so mad he wanted to hit Watts but settled for Monsoon. He put him on the bottom of the ropes and started choking and refused to stop. He was disqualified in 4:35. The third and deciding fall a draw was called because of curfew.

Don McClarity, the Irish favorite of the fans, faced Smasher Sloan of Montana. Sloan wore over Don's left arm and he couldn't use it for a few minutes. Sloan bounced off the ropes, then Don threw him into the turn buckle, and pinned him in 10:31.

Arnold Skaland entered the ring wearing a new black and white striped sweater. In the opening minutes of the match Johnny Rodz cut in to do a bit of punching but Arnold got out of his clutches. When the referee ordered Rodz to stop hitting Arnold's ear, Rodz shouted his defiance by kicking the referee. Arnold Skaland and Bruno Sammartino went down to wrestle in Puerto Rico for the weekend.

Magnificent Maurice recently came back from Detroit.

COMMACK, NEW YORK—Waldo Von Erich lost to Bruno Sammartino in 18:12. Argentina Apollo flattened Dr. Jerry Graham in 15:00. Miguel Perez pinned Tony Newberry. Arnold Skaland beat Bob Boyer in 14:34. Gorilla Monsoon and Bill Watts defeated Bebo Brazil and Wahoo McDaniel.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Gorilla Monsoon and Bill Watts won over Jack Miller, Bob Boyer and Arnold Skaland in 10:15. Wahoo McDaniel won two falls from Johnny Rodz in 18:35. Dr. Jerry Graham beat Tomz Merin in 10:15. Chief Big Heart won over Sieve Stanelie in 7:15. Don McClarity edged Frank Martinez. Tony Newberry lost to Apollo.

Chief White Owl bested Tony Newberry in five minutes. Apollo over Frank Martinez in 5:55. Arnold Skaland pinned Tomz Merin in 12:40. Bob Boyer won two falls from Johnny Rodz. Smasher Sloan edged Jack Miller. Dr. Jerry Graham defeated Sieve Stanelie in 5:30.

Dr. Jerry Graham beat Bob Boyer in 14 minutes. Waldo Von Erich and Bruno Sammartino defeated Rodz to Arnold Skaland in 16:13. Tony Newberry surrendered to Magnificent Maurice in 8:17. Apollo beat Sieve Stanelie. The Golden Terror drew with Smasher Sloan.

The Golden Terror won two falls from Jack Miller in 21 minutes. Wahoo McDaniel beat Tony Newberry in 10:14. Jerry Garcia flattened Kenny Ackles in 8:55. Manuel Garcia lost to Arnold Skaland in 8:20. Apollo pinned Johnny Rodz in 9:25. Chief White Owl won over Sieve Stanelie in 10:25.

• • • END

EASTERN NEWS AND ACTION

By Earle Yetter

One of the finest wrestlers to come from Germany in the past decade is Karl Gotch, a lad who is master of more than 1,000 holds.

Gotch was trained in the world renowned Snake Pit School in Wigan, England where he was taught how to battle to the death. While he frowns upon the tactics employed by fellow countrymen like Fritz von Erich and Hans Schmidt, he is fully able to handle himself in a constant war of attrition. No matter what routine his opponents decide to use, one of Gotch's submission holds is the Suplex which sends him to the ground in a constant war of attrition. No matter what routine his opponents decide to use, one of Gotch's submission holds is the Suplex which sends him to the ground in a constant war of attrition. No matter what routine his opponents decide to use, one of Gotch's submission holds is the Suplex which sends him to the ground in a constant war of attrition.

Gotch became a U.S. citizen not so long ago and he is now making his bid for a possible championship bout against Lou Tesser.

Paul Demarco, former young Canadian heavyweight, is back in action following several weeks of recuperation from injuries. Demarco who hails from Hamilton made many friends not so long ago when he put up a stirring battle against Big Moose Cholak in Buffalo, N. Y.

Ronnie (Bull) Johnson, Manitoba, la, is a product of the rodeo circuits in both Canada and the U.S. In his matches he applies the tactics he used to bring down infuriated animals and it must be said that those routines come in handy against some of the more belligerent antagonists.

Johnny Powers is another lad from Hamilton who is making himself known these days in New York State and Canadian matches. He has won a record up a consecutive list of ten victories and currently is doing the same thing in Canada.

This is a man who has a good sense of right to the top of the totem pole. He employs a "Power-Lock" hold to bring him most of his victories. This hold operates in a sort of reverse of the Best, grape-vine but he places such reliance in the hold that he is offering \$1,000 to any wrestlers who succeed in breaking it.

Power's associates include Johnny Barend, Sailor Al Thomas, Whipper Billy Watson and Ilio Di Paolo who must admit are all front line opponents. In these victories were a feather in Power's bosom.

Powers is under the management of Martino Angelo, a former Light Heavyweight Champion of the world, who also guides the destinies of the Best. Congratulations to the Whipper Billy Watson Fan Club which is now celebrating its 10th anniversary. The club is a very active one. It has a good following in Canada, has done a remarkable job with this club, now regarded as one of the best in existence. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the club can do so by contacting Miss Davies, 41 West St. Hamilton, Ont., Canada, and she will be glad to furnish particulars.

At the time this New York State fans are unanimous in their desire to see women wrestlers obtain licenses to appear in New York State. Although Attorney Peter Mancini, who has been fighting with objects to allowing the women to perform in New York State, pressure is being brought to bear on law clubs, etc. that Krulewicht may be forced to change his mind.

Refusing licenses to perform in New York State is a violation of civil rights and women wrestlers say they are denied the right to earn their living by the Commission's edict. Thousands of wrestling fans want to see the women in action. How long will they wait?

With Governor Rockefeller seeking ways and means of collecting more taxes for the state coffers, would it seem that the women wrestlers' licenses to appear in New York State would bring additional revenue to the state cash register as each admission ticket would be taxed. Why does the state refuse to consider this?

Troy and Birmingham, N. Y. wrestling fans now see occasional wrestling programs, under the jurisdiction of Frontier Sports Center. Both cities have been witnessing big time attractions with the appearances picking up noticeably.

In a six man tag match, one of the first to be held in New York State, the team of Whipper Billy Watson, Ilio Di Paolo and Johnny Barend were victorious over Bulldog Brower, Johnny Powers and The Best. A crowd of 1,000 was present.

Johnny Power's potent left hook meant for Di Paolo landed on Bulldog Brower instead enabling Di Paolo to win the third fall in 14:30. Karl Gotch made an auspicious debut when he gained two straight falls over Gene Dubois of Quebec.

Gotch's left hook in the first fall with a shoulder flip and press in the second and in only 3:41 with his famed Suplex hold.

Sailor Al Thomas' Koko Bults decked Johnny Carr in an 8:40 round. In the second round, Ilio Di Paolo won a 20 minute draw in a midweight single match, while Pat Flanagan defeated Mike Loren with a pin in 14:05. Readers who desire answers to their inquiries on wrestlers are kindly requested to forward self-addressed stamped envelopes for their replies. The writer can be contacted at 139 Lockwood Ave., Buffalo, N. Y. 14220.

WRESTLING

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PROF. HIRO: JAPAN'S NEWEST MAT MENACE

(Continued from page 64)

he can go into his pre-bout ritual. This consists of bringing down his left foot after swinging it in an arc. The same procedure with the right foot. All of this is supposed to chase away any evil spirits and get him in the mood to start the bout. He bows again to his opponent and the match is on.

Hiro is equally adept in the use of his feet as he is with those flesh-cutting judo chops he deals out with his hands. He can plant solid kicks to almost any part of the body and is a wizard in wearing down an opponent to the point where resistance is at a minimum. Then he proceeds to go on to another victory with the finesse of an executioner. He can bring down the biggest opponent with solid judo and karate blows that are astounding. He uses his bare feet for karate attacks as it gives him more leverage and power.

Hiro's battle with Hans Schmidt in Buffalo, N.Y. was just about the most rugged seen in the Queen City of The Lakes in years. Schmidt who is known to be a "spoiler" and who has wrecked many opponent's ambitions looked with disdain upon Hiro and accepted the match as yet another bout as far as he was concerned.

The bout had not proceeded more than a couple of minutes when the fans could be seen edging forward in their seats because here was a match in which almost anything could happen as both were typed as villains.

Science and rules were thrown out of the window as they came to grips. It was a modern version of Murder, Inc. as both proceeded to annihilate one another. Hiro came up with judo and karate blows to all

parts of Schmidt's anatomy. Schmidt retaliated with rugged fore-arms smashes to the head and back of Hiro who fought on desperately to keep Schmidt at bay.

Hiro displayed plenty of power in his judo attacks and on several occasions brought Schmidt down to his knees with knife-cutting blows to the neck and throat. Hiro too slid to the deck where they hammered away at one another like an auctioneer's gavel. Sturdy ringsiders were seen shaking their heads that two men could absorb that kind of punishment. It was an unadulterated pie-six brawl of the first water.

Neither one seemed willing to retreat, but suddenly they decided to take the battle outside on the arena floor where they both thought there would be more room. Schmidt ducked under the ring in search of some kind of missile to use on Hiro. When he was unable to find anything loose, Hiro dealt out another assortment of judo blows to the neck, head and chest of the German. This was savagery in all of its aspects.

Both stood toe to toe now and slugged it out to a fare-thee-well oblivious to the counting of the referee who wanted them to return inside the ring. The fans now surrounded the action, but this epic of the year came to a conclusion when both men ignored Referee Pete Sacco's count and were disqualified. Although Sacco called the bout a draw it was a knock-down, come what may, lay there and bleed me of the stone age in which everything was used to gain a victory. It is a battle that Buffalo fans are still talking about.

At times, Hiro appears to be mad at the world and he approaches every opponent as a potential enemy. He is especially vicious against American opponents it appears and it all could go back to the days

of World War II when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima spewing death and destruction in all directions in his native land. His attacks take on the aspect of revenge and retaliation for that final blow which brought the end of World War II.

Hiro is obsessed with the desire to conquer his opponents above all else in the world. That he is heading toward a showdown battle for the world championship cannot be denied.

"We will welcome a championship bout against Lou Thesz or Bruno Sammartino any time it is offered to us. I am inclined to believe that Hiro's great battles in this part of the country will keep him from obtaining a championship bout at the present time. The day will come though when the ability of Hiro cannot any longer be side-tracked, because he has earned the right to battle for the world crown," says Manager Atkins.

"His actual losses, barring disqualifications can be counted on the fingers of one hand, and even then, some of those can be discounted as a miscarriage of justice, because right now I consider the man unbeatable. He has firmly established his claim for an opportunity to secure a world championship bout," concluded Atkins.

Hiro's slashing victories in the past year stamp him as one of the greatest of Jap wrestlers. Other Jap stars like Toyonobori, Yoshimura, Shobei Baba, Kinji Shibuya, Yoshinosato, Kintaro Oki and Mr. Moto admit that Hiro has shown the way with startling victories against the best that Canada and the U.S. has to offer.

Is Hiro destined to wear the World Championship Crown? There are many who believe he will. But only time can tell what the future holds in store for this eager and baffling Jap.

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS

By Bob Utter

The weather is warm in the Hoosier state and the action hot at the Indianapolis Southside Armory thanks to a couple of guys by the name of Dick (The Bruiser) Albin and Guy (The Hammer) Snyder.

Dick and Wilbur have been drawing capacity houses at the local emporium. Perhaps the attendance rise should praise one man, and one man, only. — Dick The Bruiser. This match was a number one draw. He is strictly SRO wherever he goes.

The closest thing to the Bruiser in the top draw department is Johnny Valentine, and a fellow by the name of Gene Kiniski, the 275 pound Canadian, who exploits the clay cold along with some good old fashion country rasslin'.

Matchmaker Bill Kohler believes Kiniski to be the same caliber roughness as Afflis and will probably lecture the two as a tag duo in the near future.

Big action of the past month saw Boris and Nicolai Volkoff down the Bruiser and Snyder to win the world's tag team crown. This match was an outdoor presentation and drew close to 4,000. It went two of three falls with the champs taking the first and third.

Undercard action saw Angelo Poffo defeat Prince Pullins; Guy Mitchell won over Francisco Rios; Moose Cholak notched Dennis Dolly and the Bruiser flopped Men Mountain Brics.

Nick and Boris returned the following week and notched an easy win over Guy Mitchell and Bobby Manoff before a sellout gathering.

Preliminary grappling saw Poffo defeat former world's heavyweight champion Pat O'Connor; Rocky Montero downed Prince Pullins; Cora Combs notched Kathy O'Brien.

The Brothers Managoff lost the first fall but

bounced back to win two straight over the Volkoff Brothers in a Pier 6 fracas that had every one in the act except the ticket girls.

Opening action saw Kiniski down Dennis Dolly in 4:30; Poffo won over Guy Mitchell in 15:43; Pullins drew with Roger Dolly and Kiniski flopped Jim Laskew in 5:48.

While waiting, Bobby Managoff watched Nick Volkoff, I screamed Bobby and remembered his great match against Lou Thesz at the Indianapolis Southside Armory in 1949. McGee is a hard, elusive worker. He knows the cauliflower sport from A to Z and is a credit to the bone twisting fraternity.

A rating of wrestlers appearing in the Hoosier Capital would probably be as follows if a state wide poll were taken. This includes both popularity and attendance draw. 1. Dick (The Bruiser) Afflis; 2. Johnny Valentine; 3. Gene Kiniski; 4. Bobo Brazil; 5. Bobby Managoff; 6. Cowboy Bob Ellis; 7. Angelo Poffo; 8. Pat O'Connor; 9. Roy Shure; 10. Guy Mitchell; Joe Blanchard and Wilbur Snyder, (tie).

Hats off this month goes to the girls in wrestling. Give these gals a break. Forget their sex and think of only wrestling while watching them work. Some of them know more actual wrestling than the majority of men in the ring. Women like Moolah, Penny Banner, Georgia Brown, Jerry Noble, June Byers, Judy Grable, Brenda Scott and Karen Kellogg are a credit to the sport.

In 1950, Byers and Banner worked the second half of a Mooble main event at the Indianapolis Coliseum and drew close to 14,000 fans. Lou Thesz and Baron Leone wrestled the upper half of the card.

Rita Corle, Jo Ann Phillips and Andrea Swanson are big draws in this state. Byers and the Fabulous Moolah have been number one acts and two crowd bangers for years. My nod of course goes to blonde Penny Banner. I saw Penny in one of her first

matches. She is still the No. 1 ruffian in female wrestling.

From the way things have been going at the Indianapolis South Side Armory lately it appears that John Valentine and Dick (The Bruiser) Afflis just can't get along!

Valentine, U.S. heavyweight champion, and the Bruiser, world heavyweight champion, have been battling each other outside the ring for several weeks but Promoter Bill Kohler has failed to get the two together inside the roped square.

The last ordeal between Big John and Richard took place during a preliminary match when Valentine was going against Jim Grabmire and Guy Mitchell in a handicap encounter.

Action between the three had ended when Afflis entered the ring and started throwing punches at Valentine. Only one mistake was made and that was when the Bruiser turned his back on Big John. A chair over the head by Valentine put Richard in 4½ which later prevented his wrestling Angelo Poffo in a main event.

Preliminary action on this card saw Poffo go over Rip Collins; Chief Crazy Horse notched Jack Murphy; Collins drew with Mitchell and Grabmire went over Murphy.

Battling the previous week saw Valentine beat both Bobby Managoff and Rocky Montero within the required hour time limit.

"Guess I'll have to wrestle two at a time until I get the Bruiser in the ring," Valentine told this writer. "I'm going to prove that he is a bum to us good wrestlers."

► **MAT HILITES** . . . Since obtaining Professor Doro as his new manager, Angelo Poffo is undefeated in the Hoosier state. Newcomer Chief Crazy Horse looks good, but will never be as popular as Don Eagle. Billy Frazier looks better every time he enters the ring.

• • • END



Nick Kozak in action. Half of the fast climbing team with Mike Clancy which combines know-how with ability to dish it out in any style and under any conditions.

OFFICIAL WORLD RATINGS

Ring Wrestling Magazine Ratings are based on performance not only between issues of this publication but upon the overall records of the wrestlers. Performances and evidence of skills are the paramount guides. There's no possibility here of mistaking popularity for technical merit.

MEN

- 1—LOU THESZ
- 2—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 3—BOB "COWBOY" ELLIS
- 4—RAY STEVENS
- 5—THE DESTROYER
- 6—BOBO BRAZIL
- 7—GENE KINISKI
- 8—FRED BLASSIE
- 9—VERNE GAGNE
- 10—PAT O'CONNOR
- 11—EL SHEREEF
- 12—MAURICE VASHON
- 13—SPUTNIK MONROE
- 14—JUDO AL HAYES
- 15—JIM McKENZIE

WOMEN

- 1—RITA CORTEZ
- 2—FABULOUS MOOLAH
- 3—JUDY GRABLE
- 4—GEORGIA BROWN
- 5—PENNY BANNER
- 6—KAREN KELLOG
- 7—JO ANN PHILLIPS
- 8—EVELYN STEVENS
- 9—MAE GOODNER
- 10—ANDREA SWANSON
- 11—DOROTHY CARTER
- 12—KAY NOBLE
- 13—TONI ROSE
- 14—KATHY STARR
- 15—JESICA ROGERS

TAG TEAMS

- 1—GENE KINISKI and WALDO VON ERICH
- 2—NICK KOZAK and MIKE CLANCY
- 3—THE GORDOS
- 4—KURT and KARL VON BRAUNER
- 5—SKULL MURPHY and BRUTE BERNARD
- 6—THE KANGAROOS
- 7—THE KENTUCKIANS
- 8—THE GRAHAM BROTHERS
- 9—RAY HUNTER and AL HAYES
- 10—GORILLA MONSOON and COWBOY BILLY WATTS
- 11—LARRY HENNIG and HARLEY RACE
- 12—RAY and BUD OSBORNE
- 13—EL SHEREEF and PEPPER MARTIN
- 14—ALDO BOGNI and BRONKO LUBICH
- 15—PEPPER GOMEZ and JOSE LOTHARIO

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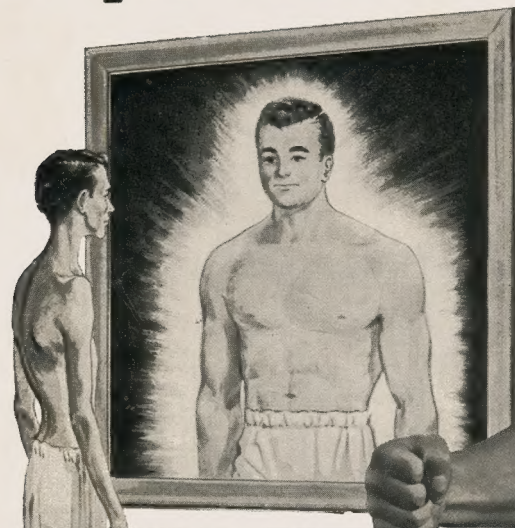
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